
T H E
L I T E R A R Y M A G A Z I N E,
A N D
B R I T I S H R E V I E W,

For OCTOBER, 1789.

L I F E O F B L A I S E P A S C A L.

WITH AN ELEGANT HEAD.

BLAISE Pascal, son of Stephen Pascal, a President in the Court of Aids and of Antonia Begon, was born at Clermont, in Auvergne, on the 19th of June, 1623. Scarcely had he acquired the faculty of speech, when he shewed extraordinary signs of great acuteness, by little repartees which he now and then uttered; but still more by the pertinent questions which he would sometimes ask respecting different objects that attracted his attention. His future progress was every way suited to such a hopeful beginning; for, as his reason acquired strength and approached towards maturity, his abilities appeared to be far superior to what might be expected at his period of life.

He lost his mother when he was three years of age; and as he was an only son, and shewed such remarkable proofs of superior genius, his father, who was a man of great learning, and an excellent mathematician, resolved to take upon himself the whole care of his education. For this purpose he removed to Paris, in

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the year 1631, as the duties of his office in the country required too much of his attention, and would have greatly interrupted him in his intended undertaking.

Though young Pascal's capacity seemed fitted for every branch of study, his inclination was principally directed towards the mathematics, for which he conceived an early taste; but his father being apprehensive that if he should be once initiated into this engaging pursuit, it might give him a dislike to the languages, he kept him as long ignorant as he possibly could of the principles of geometry. The enthusiasm of genius may for some time be repressed, but it can seldom be checked entirely. Pascal's desire for being acquainted with geometry became more ardent; and having one day asked his father the definition of that word, he replied—"Geometry is a science which teaches the method of making just figures, and of finding the proportion which they bear one to another." Pascal was at this time only twelve years of

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age; but reflecting upon this definition, which, it must be owned, was a very vague one, he began to study by himself. The place of his amusement became the scene of his meditations, and he formed upon the pavement, with a piece of charcoal, different figures, such as circles, triangles, &c. and endeavoured to discover their relative proportions. When he traced out these figures he was unacquainted with their proper names, but he supplied this deficiency by his own imagination: a circle he called a ring, a line a bar, &c. and afterwards laid down axioms, established principles, and connected things, in such a manner, by the force of natural reasoning alone, that he at length formed demonstrations. By these means he discovered the properties of lines that cut one another, some of those of triangles, and advanced as far, by a chain of consequences, as the thirty-second proposition of the first book of Euclid.*

One day, while lost in meditation and absorbed in thought, his father unexpectedly entered his apartment, and having asked him what he was about, he replied, that he was endeavouring to find a solution of the above theorem. Surprised at this answer, Mr. Pascal desired to know who had made him acquainted with it; upon which the child told him that no one had given him the least instruction, and that he had been led to it by making one discovery after another. By tracing back then the different steps by which he had advanced so far, always making use of the words bars and rings, he descended to the axioms and definitions which he had invented. Astonished at the force of his son's genius, Mr. Pascal left him, without being able to utter a single word, and immediately hastened to one of his intimate friends, named le Pailleur, who was an able mathematician, to communi-

cate to him his joy, or rather surprise; but when he arrived he remained motionless and silent. A flood of tears, however, came to his relief, and Mr. le Pailleur having begged him not to conceal the cause of his affliction, he replied, "I do not weep for sorrow, but for joy." "You know," added he, "the care that I have taken to conceal from my son all knowledge of geometry, lest it should divert him from other studies; nevertheless, see what he has done." He then related what he had seen; and Mr. le Pailleur was so struck with his son's abilities, that he advised him to put Euclid into his hands, and to suffer him to pursue his own inclinations.

This work Pascal read with infinite delight, and he comprehended the whole without the least explanation or assistance. Having thence acquired a proper mode of reasoning, he traced every effect to its cause, and never gave over his investigation until he had satisfied himself respecting it. Observing, one day, that a plate of earthen ware, which had been struck by a knife, emitted a sound, and that it ceased as soon as it was touched by the hand, he repeated the experiment, and made so many remarks in his researches, that he composed a small dissertation on the nature of sound. This dissertation his father carried with him to a club of literary men, who met once every week, and these gentlemen found it so excellent, that they begged Mr. Pascal to suffer his son to become a member of their society. Though young Pascal studied the mathematics only during his hours of recreation, as his father obliged him to devote the whole of his time to languages, he made such a rapid progress in that science, that he wrote, at the age of sixteen, a treatise of conic sections, which the greatest mathematicians of the time admired. Descartes, to whom Mr. Pascal sent a

* This proposition is, that the exterior angle of any triangle is equal to the two interior and opposite angles; and that the three angles of every rectilinear triangle are equal to two right ones.

copy of it, could not believe it to be the production of so young a man, and he chose rather to ascribe the honor of it to the father. The members of the society to which he belonged were desirous of having it printed, but young Pascal was so modest, that he did not think it of sufficient importance to be laid before the public.

From geometry, he proceeded with the same facility through other parts of the mathematics; but close application to study greatly deranged his health. He was scarcely nineteen when he invented a singular *Arithmetical Machine*, by which one may make all sorts of calculations, not only without the assistance of a pen, or of counters, but even without knowing a single rule in arithmetic. The great inconvenience attending this machine, was its bulk; but as it was composed of a great number of wheels, and various other parts, this could hardly be avoided.

The bad state of his health having obliged him to suspend his labors for some time, he was not in a condition to resume them till four years after. About that period, having seen Toricelli's experiment respecting a vacuum and the weight of the air, he turned his thoughts towards these objects; and in a conference with Mr. Petit, intendant of fortifications, proposed to make farther researches. In consequence of this idea, he undertook several new experiments, one of which was as follows:—Having provided a glass tube, forty-six feet in length, open at one end, and sealed hermetically at the other, he filled it with red wine, that he might distinguish the liquor from the tube. He then elevated it in this condition, and having placed it perpendicularly to the horizon, stopped up the bottom, and plunged it into a vessel full of water, to the depth of a foot; after which he opened the extremity of the tube, and the wine descended to the height of

about thirty-two feet from the surface of the vessel, leaving a considerable vacuum at the upper extremity. He next inclined the tube, and remarked that the wine rose higher; and having inclined it till the top was within thirty-two feet of the ground, making the wine thus run out, he found that the water rose in it, so that it was partly filled with that fluid, and partly with wine. He made also a great many experiments with siphons, syringes, bellows, and all kinds of tubes, making use of different liquors, such as quicksilver, water, wine, oil, &c. and having published them in 1647, dispersed his work throughout all France, and transmitted it also to foreign countries. All these experiments, however, ascertained effects, without demonstrating the causes. Pascal knew that Toricelli conjectured that those phenomena which he had observed were occasioned by the weight of the air;* and, in order to discover the truth of this theory, he made an experiment at the top and bottom of a mountain in Auvergne, called *Le Puy de Dome*, the result of which gave him reason to conclude that air was weighty. Of this experiment he published an account, and sent copies of it to most of the learned men in Europe. He likewise renewed it at the top of several high towers, such as those of *Notre Dame*, at Paris, *St. Jacques de la Boucherie*, &c. and always remarked the same difference in the weight of the air, at different elevations. This fully convinced him of the weight of the atmosphere; and from this discovery he drew many useful and important inferences. He composed also a large treatise, in which he thoroughly explained this subject, and replied to all the objections that had been started against it. As he thought this work rather too prolix, and as he was fond of brevity and precision, he divided it into two small treatises, one of which he entitled, *A Dissertation on the Equili-*

* Before this period, all those effects which are now known to be produced by the weight of the atmosphere, were attributed to Nature's abhorrence of a vacuum.

brium of Liquors; and the other, An Essay on the Weight of the Atmosphere.

These labors procured Pascal so much reputation, that the greatest mathematicians and philosophers of the age proposed various questions to him, and consulted him respecting such difficulties as they could not solve. Some years after, while tormented with a violent fit of the tooth-ache, he discovered the solution of a problem proposed by Father Mersenne, which had baffled the penetration of all those who had attempted it. This problem was to determine the curve described in the air by the nail of a coach wheel, while the machine is in motion. Pascal offered a reward of forty pistoles to any one who should give a satisfactory answer to it. No one, however, having succeeded, he published his own at Paris; but as he began now to be disgusted with the sciences, he would not put his real name to it, but sent it abroad under that of A. d'Ettenville. This was the last work which he published in the mathematics; his infirmities now encreasing so much, that he was under the necessity of renouncing severe study, and of living so reclusive, that he scarcely admitted any person to see him.

For the sake of unbending his mind, Pascal used often to go to Port Royal des Champs, where one of his sisters had taken the veil, and where he had an opportunity of seeing the celebrated Mr. Arnaud, and several of his friends. This gentleman's dispute with the Doctors of the Sorbonne, who were endeavouring to condemn his opinions, was of course frequently brought upon the carpet. Mr. Arnaud, solicited to write a defence, had composed a treatise, which however did not meet with approbation, and which he himself considered as a very indifferent work. Pascal being one day in company, some of those present, who were sensible of his abilities, having said to him, "You, who are a young man, ought to do something," he took the hint, and

composed a letter, which he shewed to his friends, and which was so much admired, that they insisted on its being printed. The object of this letter is an explanation of the terms, *next power, sufficient grace, and actual grace*; and the author here shews, as well as in two others which followed it, that a regard for the faith was not the motive which induced the Doctors of the Sorbonne to enter into dispute with Mr. Arnaud, but a desire of oppressing him by ridiculous questions. Pascal, therefore, in other letters, which he published afterwards, attacks the Jesuits, whom he believed to be the authors of this quarrel, and in the most elegant style, seasoned with wit and satire, endeavours to render them not only odious, but ridiculous. For this purpose he employs the form of dialogue, and introduces an ignorant person, as men of the world generally are, who requests information respecting the questions in dispute from these Doctors, whom he consults by proposing his doubts; and his answers to their replies are so perspicuous, pertinent, and just, that the subject is illustrated in the clearest manner possible. He afterwards exposes the morality of the Jesuits, in some conversations between him and one of their casuists, in which he still represents a man of the world, who seeks for instruction, and who, hearing maxims altogether new to him, seems astonished, but still listens with moderation. The casuist believes that he is sincere, and relishes these maxims, and under this persuasion he discovers every thing to him with the greatest readiness. The other is still surprised, and as his instructor attributes this surprise only to the novelty of his maxims, he still continues to explain himself with the same confidence and freedom. This instructor is a simple kind of man, who is not overburdened with acuteness, and who insensibly engages himself in details which always become more particular. The person who listens, wishing neither to contradict him, nor to subscribe to his doctrine, receives

receives it with an ambiguous kind of raillery, which, however, sufficiently shews what opinion he entertains of it.

These letters, written under the name of Montalte to a Provincial, and thence called the *Provincial Letters*, were severely censured by the Jesuits. They reproached the author with having employed only raillery against them, and with having misrepresented several passages of their authors, which induced Pascal to write eight more, in vindication of himself. All these letters, in number eighteen, written in a style altogether new in France, appeared in quarto, one after another, from the month of January, 1656, to the month of March of the year following. They are a compound of delicate humor, and of masculine eloquence, and unite the wit of a Moliere with the close reasoning of a Bossuet. Boileau considered them as the most perfect work in the French language, and he openly declared this opinion to the Jesuits themselves. "One day," says Madame Sevigné in one of her letters, "the conversation happened to turn upon the ancients and the moderns. Despreaux supported the cause of the ancients, but excepted one modern, who, in his opinion, excelled all authors whatever, both new and old. A Jesuit, who accompanied Father Bourdaloue, and who affected to be the scholar, asked him what that book was, so distinguished for its wit. Despreaux remained silent; upon which Corbinelli said to him, Sir, I beg you will tell it me, that I may read it the whole night. Despreaux, with a smile, replied, You have read it more than once, Sir, I am sure of it. The Jesuit still pressing Despreaux to name that wonderful author, he said to him, with a sneering and disdainful air, Father, do not press me. The Jesuit, however, still continuing to importune him, he at length took him by the arm, and giving it a squeeze, said, Well, Father, since you insist upon

it, I must tell you that I mean Pascal.——Pascal! exclaimed the astonished Father: Pascal is beautiful, as far as falsehood can be beautiful. —Falsehood! returned Despreaux; Falsehood! Know, Sir, that his work is both replete with truth, and inimitable. It has been just now translated into three languages." Father Bohours discoursing with the same Despreaux on the difficulty of writing the French language well, named such of the French authors as he considered to be models, in respect of purity; Despreaux, however, rejected them all. "Who then," said the Jesuit, "according to your opinion, is the most perfect writer? Whom shall we read?" —"Father," replied Boileau, "read the Provincial Letters; and if you follow my advice you will read no other." When Bossuet was asked, which of all the works written in the French language he would wish rather to have been the author of, he replied, as Voltaire says, The Provincial Letters. Indeed, Pascal's contemporaries perceived in them a species of writing, to which they had been before strangers; and there is, perhaps, not a single word used in them, though written almost a century and a half ago, which is not adopted at present by the best writers. We may justly fix, at the period when these letters were written, the establishment of the French language.

Pascal was only about the age of thirty when these letters were published, yet he was extremely infirm, and his disorders encreasing soon after so much, that he conceived his end fast approaching, he gave up all farther thoughts of literary composition. He resolved to spend the remainder of his days in retirement and pious meditation; and with this view he broke off all his former connections, changed his habitation, and spoke to no one, not even to his own domestics. He made his own bed, fetched his dinner from the kitchen, carried it to his apartment, and brought back the plates and dishes in the evening; so that

that he employed his servants only to cook for him, to go to town, and to do such other things as he could not absolutely do himself. In his chamber nothing was to be seen but two or three chairs, a table, a bed, and a few books. It had no kind of ornament whatever; he had neither a carpet on the floor, nor curtains to his bed, but this did not prevent him from sometimes receiving visits; and when his friends appeared surprised to see him thus without furniture, he replied, that he had what was necessary, and that any thing else would be a superfluity unworthy of a wise man. He employed his time in prayer, and in reading the Holy Scriptures; and he wrote down such thoughts as this exercise inspired. Though his continual infirmities obliged him to use very delicate food, and though his servants employed the utmost care to provide only what was excellent, he never relished what he eat, and seemed quite indifferent whether what they brought him was good or bad. When any thing new, and in season, was presented to him, and when he was asked, after he had finished his repast, how he liked it, he replied, "You ought to have informed me before-hand; I should have then taken notice of it." His indifference in this respect was so great, that though his taste was not vitiated, he forbade any sauce or ragout to be made for him which might excite his appetite. He took, without the least repugnance, all the medicines that were prescribed him for the re-establishment of his health; and when Madame Perrier, his sister, seemed astonished at it, he replied ironically, that he could not comprehend how people could ever shew a dislike to a medicine, after being apprized that it was a disagreeable one, when they took it voluntarily; for violence or surprise ought only to produce that effect.

Though Pascal had now given up intense study, and though he lived in the most temperate manner, his health continued to decline rapidly, and his

disorders had so enfeebled his organs, that his reason became in some measure affected. He always imagined that he saw a deep abyss on his left side, and he never would sit down till a chair was placed there to secure him from the danger which he apprehended. His friends did every thing in their power to banish this melancholy idea from his thoughts, and to cure him of his error, but without the desired effect; for though he would become calm and composed for a little, the phantom would in a few moments again make its appearance, and torment him. The cause of his seeing this singular vision for the first time, is said to have been as follows:—His physicians, alarmed on account of the exhausted state to which he was reduced, had advised him to substitute easy and agreeable exercise for the fatiguing labors of the closet. One day, in the month of October 1654, having gone, according to custom, to take an airing on the *Pont de Neuilly*, in a coach and four, the two first horses suddenly took fright, opposite to a place where there was no parapet, and threw themselves violently into the Seine, but the traces luckily giving way, the carriage remained on the brink of the precipice. The shock which Pascal, in his languishing situation, must have received from this dreadful accident may easily be imagined. It threw him into a fit, which continued for some time, and it was with great difficulty that he could be restored to his senses. After this period his brain became so deranged, that he was continually haunted by the remembrance of his danger, especially when his disorders prevented him from enjoying sleep. To the same cause was attributed a kind of vision or extacy, that he had some time after; a memorandum of which he preserved during the remainder of his life in a bit of paper, put between the cloth and the lining of his coat, and which he always carried about him. Some of the Jesuits had the baseness and inhumanity to reproach this great genius with the derangement of his organs.

organs. In the *Dictionary of Jansenist Books*, he is called a *hypochondriac*, and a man of a *wrong head* and a *bad heart*. But, as a celebrated writer has observed, Pascal's disorder had in it nothing more surprising or disgraceful than a fever, or the vertigo. During the last years of his life, in which he exhibited a melancholy example of the humiliating reverses which take place in this transitory scene, and which, if properly considered, might teach mankind not to be too proud of those abilities which a moment may take from them, he attended all the salutations,* visited every church in which reliques were exposed, and had always a spiritual almanack, which gave an account of all those places where particular acts of devotion were performed. On this occasion it has been said, that *Religion renders great minds capable of little things, and little minds capable of great*.

That he might not be alone in his house, Pascal had engaged a man, with his wife and whole family, to live with him; and he maintained them all at his own expence, and supplied them with every thing necessary. One of this man's children being attacked by the small pox, he was afraid that this contagious disorder would prevent his sister from visiting him, lest the might convey the infection to her own. On this account he wished to get the sick child removed; but as he apprehended that it would be dangerous to transport it in that situation, he chose rather to remove himself, though then very ill. "I shall be less exposed in quitting my habitation," said he, "and for this reason it is I who must remove;" which he accordingly did, and went to reside with his sister, Madame Perrier.

Three days after this he was seized with a violent cholic, which entirely deprived him of sleep; and though his physicians assured him that there was not the least shadow of danger, he resolved to settle his affairs, and with this

view made his will, in which the poor were not forgotten. He was remarkably charitable, and if he had not had relations, it appears that he would have left the whole of his fortune to relieve the needy. A little before his death, he said to his sister, "Whence happens it that I have done nothing for the poor, though I have always had a great love for them?" "It is," replied Madame Perrier, "because you have never been rich enough to afford them much assistance." "That has been my misfortune," returned Pascal; "but if the physicians speak truth, and if it please God to free me from this malady, I am resolved to employ the rest of my days only in the service of the poor." When attacked by most acute pains, he comforted his friends, whom he saw afflicted on account of his sufferings, in the following words:—"Grieve not for me; disease is the natural state of Christians, because one is then, as one ought always to be, in pain, deprived of the pleasures and enjoyments of the senses, free from all those passions that infect us during the course of our lives, and exempted from ambition and avarice, and in the continual expectation of death." Full of such sentiments, this great man breathed his last, pronouncing these words, "May God never forsake me." He expired on the 19th of August, 1662, at one o'clock in the morning, aged 39 years and two months, and was buried at St. Stephen of the Mount, his own parish, behind the great altar.

In company Pascal was distinguished by the amiableness of his behaviour; by his easy, agreeable, and instructive conversation, and by great modesty. He possessed a natural kind of eloquence, which was in a manner irresistible. The arguments he employed, for the most part, produced the effect which he proposed; and though his abilities entitled him to assume an

* Certain solemn prayers, which are repeated at certain hours, and on certain days, in the Popish churches.

air of superiority, he never displayed that haughty and imperious tone which may often be observed in men of shining talents. The philosophy of this great man consisted in renouncing all pleasure, and every superfluity. He not only denied himself the most common gratifications, but he took also, without reluctance, and even with pleasure, either as nourishment or as remedies, whatever was disagreeable to the senses; and he every day retrenched some part of his dress, food, or other things, which he considered as not absolutely necessary. Towards the close of his life, he employed himself wholly in pious and moral reflections, writing down those which he judged worthy of being preserved. The first piece of paper he could find was employed for this purpose; and he commonly put down only a few words of each sentence, as he wrote them merely for his own use. The bits of paper upon which he had written these thoughts were found, after his death, filed upon different pieces of string, without any order or connection, and being copied exactly as they were written, they were afterwards arranged and published.

The celebrated Bayle, speaking of this great man, says,—an hundred volumes of sermons are not of so much avail as a simple account of the life of Pascal. His humility, and his devotion, mortified the libertines more than if they had been attacked by a dozen of missionaries. In a word, Bayle had so high an idea of this philosopher, that he calls him *a paradox in the human species*. “When we consider his character,” says he, “we are almost inclined to doubt that he was born of a woman, like the man mentioned by Lucretius:

“Ut vix humanâ videatur stirpe creatus.”

Pascal's works, besides those already mentioned, are, I. *Thoughts on Religion, and other subjects*, collected from the above papers, and published at Am-

sterdam in 1688, in one volume, 12mo. II. *A Treatise on the Equilibrium of Liquors*, 12mo. III. Some other writings for the Clergy of Paris, against the Apology of the Casuists by Father Pirot. The most celebrated editions of the Provincial Letters are that which was printed in four languages, viz. Latin, French, Italian, and Spanish, at Cologne, in 1684, in octavo; and that in French only, without notes, printed at the same place, in 1657. An edition, published at Amsterdam, in four vols. 12mo. in 1749, with notes by Wandrock, is esteemed also. The works of Pascal were collected in 5 vol. 8vo. and published at the Hague, by *de Tune*, and at Paris, by *Nyon*, senior, in 1779. This edition of Pascal's works may be considered as the first published; at least the greater part of them were not before collected into one body, and some of them had remained only in manuscript. For this collection the public were indebted to the Abbé Bossu, and Pascal deserved to have such an editor. “This extraordinary man,” says he, “inherited from nature all the powers of genius. He was a geometrician of the first rank, a profound reasoner, and a sublime and elegant writer. If we reflect, that in a very short life, oppressed by continual infirmities, he invented a curious Arithmetical Machine, the elements of the calculation of chances, and a method of resolving various problems respecting the cycloid; that he fixed, in an irrevocable manner, the wavering opinions of the learned respecting the weight of the air; that he wrote one of the completest works which exist in the French language; and that in his *Thoughts* there are passages, the depth and beauty of which are incomparable, we shall be induced to believe, that a greater genius never existed in any age or nation. All those who had occasion to frequent his company, in the ordinary commerce of the world, acknowledged his superiority, but it excited no envy against him,

"him, as he was never fond of shewing it. His conversation instructed, without making those who heard him sensible of their own inferiority, and he was remarkably indulgent towards the faults of others. It may be easily seen, by his Provincial Letters, and by some of his other works, that he was born with a great fund of humor, which his infirmities could never entirely destroy. In company he readily

"indulged in that harmless and delicate raillery which never gives offence, and which greatly tends to enliven conversation; but its principal object generally was of a moral nature. For example, ridiculing those authors who say *My Book*, *My Commentary*, *My History*, they would do better, added he, to say, *Our Book*, *Our Commentary*, *Our History*; since there are in them much more of other people's than their own.*

OBSERVATIONS ON THE PRODUCTIONS OF MOLDAVIA AND WALLACHIA.*

THE vine, that shrub so useful on account of its productions, deserves to be mentioned before all others, either on account of the great quantity of wine which is made from it in these two provinces, or of the excellence of its quality. The wines which are most used here are white, and of a color a little inclining to that of gold: red wines are not much esteemed. The vine in general is cultivated upon the hills; and when the vintage is finished, it is laid down and covered with earth. In the spring it is uncovered, and propped, that is to say, the twigs are tied to very slender rods, and the ground is dug up around it. The vines begin to bud soon after this operation, and the grapes are ripe in the month of October. The people of Wallachia and Moldavia employ very little art in making and preserving their wine. This liquor is so good of itself, that it is clarified,

and becomes fit for drinking the same year. It is at first a little sourish, but becomes afterwards much milder, and in some measure oily. The rich proprietors are accustomed to leave a large tun filled with new wine open, about the commencement of the cold weather. Two or three nights after, there is formed over the liquor an incrustation of ice, of more or less thickness, in proportion to the cold, and the time which it has been exposed in the open air. They then make a hole in the icy crust with a red-hot iron, and draw off the pure wine, freed from the watery part: it is then very pure and strong, and keeps much better.

When their red wine is in a state of fermentation, the Moldavians and the Wallachians infuse a certain quantity of wormwood in it, which communicates to it its bitterness, and gives it a beautiful color, like that of the ruby.

* The following elegant Epitaph was inscribed on Pascal's tomb.

Nobilissimi Scutarii BLASII PASCALIS, tumulus. D.O.M. BLASII PASCALIS, Scutarius nobilis, hic jacet. Pietas si non moritur, æternum vivet. Vir conjugii nescius, Religione sanctus, Virtute clarus, Doctrinâ celebris, Ingenio acutus, Sanguine et Animo pariter illustris, Doctus non Doctus, Equitatis amator, Veritatis defensor, Virginum ultor, Christianæ Moralis corruptorum acerrimus hostis. Hunc Rhetores amant fecundum; Hunc Scriptores norunt elegantem; Hunc Mathematici stupent profundum; Hunc Philosophi querunt sapientem; Hunc Doctores laudant theologum; Hunc Pii venerant austerum; Hunc omnes mirantur; omnibus ignotum; omnibus licet notum. Quid plura Viator, quam perdidimus PASCALEM. Is Ludov. erat Montaltius. Heu! satis dixi; urgent lachrymæ, sileo. Et qui bene precaberis, bene tibi eveniet, et vivo et mortuo.

* From Osservazioni Storiche, Naturali, Politiche intorno la Valachia e Moldavia. Naples, 1788. 8vo.

This wine is accounted stomachic, and pleases the palates of those who have been accustomed to drink it, but it is very disagreeable at first.

To speak the truth, I do not know to what wine I can compare those of Wallachia and Moldavia, except one kind, which has a great resemblance to the real Muscade of Frontignan. It is certain that the wines of these provinces have a most agreeable taste, that they are not prejudicial to the health, and that though one drinks them to such excess as to be intoxicated, they have no bad effects afterwards upon the head. The part of Moldavia most celebrated for wines is Odobesti, near Faxani. It produces a kind of wine much like Champagne, which is transported to Russia. It deserves to be remarked, that the liquor produced from the vines, which grow at a small distance from the place I have mentioned, in the territories of Wallachia, having the same exposure to the south, as I have often remarked, are weak and destitute of flavour, and spoil on the first warm weather.

The best wines of Wallachia are found in the districts of Saccajani and Nimnico, in Crajova. A great quantity of them are sent to Transilvania. In that country the inhabitants smoke their wines with sulphur, to render them stronger, and to make them keep better; but they acquire at the same time a noxious quality, which destroyed several of the German soldiers who were in garrison at Cronstadt.

Bees are one of the most advantageous objects for Wallachia and Moldavia, because the wax produced in these two vast countries is, without dispute, the finest and the most esteemed in Europe. Large quantities of it are collected, which might be still greatly increased, if the population of these provinces were more numerous. The wax of Moldavia is, in certain respects, superior to that of Wallachia, especially that which is procured from the cantons, where there are woods of the lime tree, because these

produce an odoriferous flower, of which bees are remarkably fond.

It appears, beyond a doubt, that the climate of Wallachia and Moldavia, or rather the soil of these two provinces, is singularly adapted for bees, when we consider the number of these insects, and the facility with which they multiply. It is certain that when the season is favorable, one swarm will produce thirty in one summer, but in general only from ten to fifteen. The wax and the honey are taken from the hives in the beginning of the summer and autumn. The hives are remarkably simple, being nothing but the trunks of trees hollowed. The owners of these bees bestow very little care upon them. Towards the end of autumn they destroy the greater part of these insects, and preserve, in caverns dug under the earth, a certain quantity of hives, in each of which they leave a small portion of honey to nourish the swarm. When the winter is long, and when the bees cannot go in quest of food in the fields, either on account of the cold, or through weakness, they then give them honey. The heavy and frequent rains in the spring time, and the excessive heats of summer, which destroy the flowers and plants, do great hurt to the bees, and honey and wax become then more rare. The people of Moldavia boast much of a kind of green wax, the odor of which is most agreeable and balsamic. Indeed, it is rather a resin than wax which the bees collect from the lime tree, and which they employ, with much industry and patience, to stop up externally the holes in their hives. A small quantity only of this green wax is collected for the curious, who use it as a perfume.

Moldavia and Wallachia produce almost every kind of grain and pulse; the most useful of which are wheat, barley, Turkish corn, or maize, pease, beans, lentils, &c. The best wheat, destined for seed, and to be preserved, is sown in autumn; and that of the lowest quality is not put into the earth till

till the spring, when the autumn has been rainy, or when the earth has been froze before the appearance of snow. The farmers in these provinces till the earth with three pair of oxen; and the furrows which they make are very deep. When the land is in good case, they sow wheat one year, and let it rest the next; after which they sow wheat, barley or maize. When the land is newly cultivated, as often happens, because there is a great deal of waste ground, in the spring of the first year they sow cabbage, which encrease to an extraordinary size, and water melons, which also become excellent. By pursuing this method, they not only extract and temper those superabundant salts contained in all new land, but they destroy, at the same time, those plants and herbs which would obstruct the growth of the wheat; indeed the large leaves of the cabbages and water melons, by covering the weeds which grow near them, check their vegetation, and destroy them before they can produce seed.

The wheat sown in autumn, grows rapidly to the height of six or eight inches. It is soon covered by the snow, and the deeper it is, so much more favorable it is to the vegetation of the wheat. The snow generally disappears in the month of March, and the wheat grows then very quickly, so that it is ripe by June, which is the beginning of the harvest. The grain is separated from the straw by making it be trod upon by horses, according to the custom prevalent in Turkey, Italy, and the southern provinces of France. When the grain is thoroughly winnowed and cleared from the chaff, it is put into trenches in the earth lined with straw. As the climate of Moldavia is much more rigorous and inconstant than that of Wallachia, the crops there are very uncertain; but notwithstanding this inconvenience, they are so abundant, that a great deal of wheat is exported

from that province. Maize, which has been introduced only of late years into Wallachia and Moldavia, is at present very much in vogue, on account of the facility with which it is cultivated, and the certainty there is of a plentiful crop. It is sown in the spring, and supplies both the inhabitants and their domestic animals with food, which is easily prepared. The peasants preserve the ears of the maize in large baskets, made of willow, which they place upon posts erected in the neighbourhood of their houses. They afterwards strip those ears of their grain, according as they have occasion to convert it into flour. The wheat is of an excellent quality for making bread: it is a middle species, between the reddish hard wheat and that which is white and farinaceous. It may be kept a great many years under the earth. It must, however, be observed, that grain preserved in this manner in trenches, is entirely unfit for sowing. The barley produced in Wallachia and Moldavia is equally white and perfect. It is given to the horses in preference to oats, or any other kind of grain.

In the plains, as well as on the mountains of Moldavia and Wallachia, there are immense forests, composed of large and beautiful trees, fit for every purpose: the most distinguished is the oak, which is of the best and finest species, either for building vessels, or for those works which require a hard, compact wood. Oaks may be seen in these countries two or three feet in diameter, remarkably straight, and of a prodigious height. The streets of Buccorelle and Jassi are one continued bridge, formed of oak planks.* When this kind of pavement is well made, it must be allowed that it is very convenient for those who walk; but, on the contrary, when it is neglected and becomes old, it is very dangerous, especially for horses. This custom of paving streets with wood is ridiculous and ex-

* The streets of Warsaw are in part paved in the same manner; some are paved with granite, and others have no pavement of any kind.

penfive, and occasions a prodigious waste of timber, because such pavements must be renewed every four or five years.

The mountains abound with firs; and in various parts of these countries there are plenty of beech trees, excellent elms for making cart and coach wheels, and ashes of different kinds. The poplar, lime, and walnut trees are here excellent, and attain to a great size. The same is the case with the white mulberry tree, many plantations of which have been lately made, for the purpose of feeding silk worms. This branch of manufacture had not been before introduced into these provinces.

There are also woods of pear, apple, plumb, and cherry trees; of the service, and of the lote tree, which the Italians call *loto-bagarolo*; and of holly oaks. In several parts of Moldavia and the Bannat of Crajova, there is found a tree called *tiffa*, which never grows large; the wood of it is exceedingly hard, and of a reddish color. It is as fit for making furniture, and other works, as those woods which come from America. The peasants make barrels and other vessels of it, to preserve their liquors, which are as good as those made of glass, or of potters earth; they are, above all,

excellent for transportation. This is the only thing which I saw produced by the industry of the Wallachians. I may add, also, that these peasants are acquainted with the art of splitting their firs, and extracting tar from them, especially in those parts where this substance does not flow spontaneously.

Though Moldavia and Wallachia still abound with wood, the natives, who are fond of the productions of their own country, pretend that its forests are nothing in comparison of what they were formerly. They were then, according to their account, impenetrable to their enemies; and to these thick forests they attribute the bad success which the Ottoman arms often had in their country. When we consider the great consumption of wood for constructing bridges and paving streets, and for those bridges which the Porte is accustomed to erect on the Danube, on the commencement of a war, no doubt will remain concerning the actual diminution of their forests.

The Wallachians are accustomed to tear up the roots of trees, and to dry them for fuel. They find that they are much fitter for that purpose than the wood taken from the trunk, and that they last much longer.

HISTORICAL ANECDOTE RESPECTING SINGULAR BARBARITIES COMMITTED IN FRANCE, IN THE REIGN OF KING JOHN.

THE shocking barbarities lately committed by the populace in France, while they excite horror and detestation, may serve to shew how dangerous it is to throw power into the hands of those who are incapable of distinguishing between liberty and licentiousness. When the minds of men are inflamed, they generally run from one extreme into another; and, without giving themselves time to reflect, wreak their vengeance indiscriminately upon the guilty, and those whom they only suspect to be enemies to their designs. History furnishes us with many examples of the truth of

this observation; and by that of France, it appears that the same kind of spirit has before prevailed among the lower classes of people in that country. Mr. Villaret, in his continuation of the Abbè Velly's History, speaking of the misfortunes with which France was oppressed in the reign of King John, about the year 1358, says, "These multiplied evils appeared to be incapable of increase, when a new kind of calamity arose, and, by its excess, seemed for a time to make the fury of the contending parties to be forgotten. The country, abandoned to all the horrors of war, became

became a dismal abode for the inhabitants; and the troops, with which it was over-run, carried misery and famine every where along with them. The wretched peasants quitted their fields, and left them at the mercy of those who had taken possession of them. Exposed to continual insults, oppressed without distinction, by the opposite factions, who seemed to have forgot that they had to do with men, and plundered of every thing, notwithstanding their extreme poverty, they saw their evils daily increase, without any appearance of alleviation. Having no longer any hopes, their despair was converted into fury. The first sparks of this insurrection, which spread into a general flame, appeared in the Beauvoisis. Some peasants of that country having assembled, took a solemn oath to exterminate all the gentlemen, saying, *that all the nobility disgraced the kingdom of France; and that it would be a meritorious action to destroy them; adding, evil be to him who shall prevent this from being carried into execution.* They then armed themselves with bludgeons, headed with iron, and went to attack the castle of a gentleman in the neighbourhood. Having forced the gates, they entered with the utmost fury, massacred the gentleman, with his wife and children, plundered the house, and departed, after setting it on fire. The first body consisted of no more than an hundred men; but in a short time they increased so much, that it would have been impossible to number them. In all the neighbourhood of Paris, and the Isle of France; in the provinces of Picardy, the Soissonois, Beauvoisis, and, in a word, in almost all the northern parts of France, nothing was to be seen but large bodies of peasants collected together, who killed even those who refused to join them. This insurrection happened almost on the same day; and what must appear very extraordinary is, that it was excited when there was no suspicion that rusticks, living in the country, could be prepared for such a scheme by premeditated concert. The greater part of

them had no connection one with another, being only employed in their labors, and having never had any share in the affairs of Government. Different bands uniting themselves, soon formed considerable bodies; and a contemporary historian assures us, that had they been all collected, they would have composed at least an army of an hundred thousand men. The most formidable of these bodies created chiefs; the most celebrated of whom was an inhabitant of the village of Mello, named William Caillet. These peasants were distinguished by the name of the *Jacques*.

"The excesses to which they proceeded, surpass every thing that the most diabolical vengeance and atrocious barbarity could suggest. I shudder, and the book drops from my hand when I read in our ancient chronicles, that these fanatics, transformed into ferocious brutes, entered a gentleman's castle, bound him to a stake, violated, in his sight, the chastity of his wife and daughters; put him afterwards upon a spit, and having roasted him, compelled his lady and his children to eat his flesh, and terminated this horrid scene by a general massacre of the whole family, and by setting fire to the house. More than two hundred castles, or gentlemen's seats, were pillaged, and burnt in this manner. When they were asked, says Froissard, what motives induced them to commit such abominable actions, they replied, *they did not know; that they did so because they saw others do the same; and that they thought it their duty, in the like manner, to destroy all the gentlemen and nobility in the world.*

"The beginning of this insurrection produced effects like an inundation: all fled before the Jacques; and the nobility, terrified, took shelter in fortified cities, or in castles sufficiently strong to resist their attacks. The Duchesses of Normandy and Orleans, and several ladies of the first distinction, were reduced to the necessity of seeking an asylum which might shelter them from the outrages of these monsters,

sters, whom the respect due to their rank and sex could not check. The nobility, however, having recovered from the terror which had been at first caused by this sudden revolution, assembled; they requested assistance from the neighboring provinces, and several foreign gentlemen came to join them from Flanders, Hainaut, and Bohemia. They then went in quest of these scattered troops, exterminated the greater part of them separately, and compelled the rest to take refuge in their habitations.

"What may appear surprising is, that the complete defeat of these formidable bodies was owing to the King of Navarre, whose interest it appeared to be rather to foment a war, which was declared solely against the nobility, the greater part of whom were attached to the Regent. It is true that the Navarrese, in arming against these peasants, revenged a personal in-

jury which they had done them, by the massacre of William and Testard de Pecquigny, gentlemen of Artois, and both brothers of John de Pecquigny, one of their most zealous partizans. This Prince, in one day, put three thousand of them to the sword, near Clermont, in Beauvoisis, and caused William Caillet, their chief, already mentioned, to be executed. The nobility, resuming courage from their re-union and the succours they had received, now kept the field, and carrying fire and sword every where along with them, massacred all the peasants whom they could meet with, whether guilty or innocent. Those in the neighbourhood of the Loire retired, in the night time, to islands, or to boats which they stopped in the midst of the river, and there shut themselves up, with their families and cattle, to conceal themselves from the fury of the English troops."

ACCOUNT OF A SINGULAR WIND, CALLED THE HARMATTAN,
OBSERVED IN SOME PARTS ON THE COAST OF AFRICA.*

ON that part of the coast of Africa which extends from *Cape Verd* to *Cape Lopez*, there are in the months of December, January, and February, frequent returns of a wind from the north-east, which is known by the name of the *Harmattan* wind. It probably may be felt further to the southward than *Cape Lopez*, but I cannot speak of what occurs in countries which I have not visited. It comes on indiscriminately, at any hour of the day or night, at any time of the tide, or at any period of the moon's age, and continues a day or two, sometimes five or six: once I knew it to continue a fortnight; and there are generally three or four returns of it every season. It never rains in an *Harmattan*; but it sometimes immediately succeeds a shower. It blows with moderate force; not

quite so strong as the sea breeze, which in the fair or dry season sets from the west, west-south-west, and south-west, but something stronger than the land wind which blows at night from the north, and north-north-west.

This wind is always accompanied with an unusual gloominess, and haziness of the atmosphere; very few stars can be seen through the fog; and the sun, concealed the greatest part of the day, appears only for a few hours about noon, and then of a mild red, exciting no painful sensation in the eye. No dew is perceived during the continuance of this wind, nor is there the least appearance of any moisture in the atmosphere. *Salt of Tartar*, dissolved in water, so as to run upon a tile, and exposed to the *Harmattan*, even in the night, becomes perfectly dry again in a few

* Extracted from Norris's Memoirs of the Reign of Bossa Ahadee, King of Dahomy.

hours. Vegetables of every kind suffer considerably from it: all tender plants, and seeds just sprouting above the earth, are killed by it; the most flourishing evergreens feel its baneful influence; the branches of the lemon, orange, and lime trees droop; the leaves become flaccid, and wither; and their fruits, robbed of their usual nourishment, are cramped in their growth, and ripen, or rather appear yellow, and become dry, before they have arrived at half their usual size. Every thing appears dull and faded; the grass withers, and dries like hay; of which circumstance the natives avail themselves to burn it down in the vicinity of the roads, as well to keep them open, as to destroy the shelter which it affords to wild beasts, or even to enemies that might lurk concealed in it. The covers of books, shut up closely in a trunk, and protected by lying among clothes, bend back as if they had been exposed to a fire: the pannels of doors, window shutters, &c. split; and the joints of a well-laid floor of seasoned wood, will gape so wide, that one may lay his finger in them: the sides and decks of ships become quite open and leaky; and veneered work flies to pieces, from the contraction of the wood in different directions. If casks containing liquor, as wine or spirits, are not frequently wetted on the outside, they generally lose their contents.

The air becomes considerably cooler in an *Harmattan*; and the thermometer (*Fahrenheit's*) is generally ten or twelve degrees below the common standard. The natives complain much of the severity of the weather on these occasions, and clothe themselves in their warmest apparel, to guard against it; though that alteration is highly grateful to the *Europeans* resident in the country, yet they also feel many inconveniences, in common with the *Blacks*; for the eyes, nostrils, lips, and palate, become disagreeably dry and uneasy: there is a necessity and inclination to drink often, not so much to quench thirst, as to remove a painful aridity in the fauces:

the lips and nose become chapped and sore; and though the air is cool, there is a disagreeable sensation of prickling heat upon the skin, as if it had been washed with spirits of hartshorn or strong lye. If this wind continues five or six days, the scarf skin generally peels off from the hands and face, and even from the rest of the body, if the *Harmattan* continues a few days longer. Perspiration is considerably suppressed; but when sweat is excited by exercise, I have found it peculiarly acrid, tasting like spirits of wine diluted with water.

So far its effects on the animal and vegetable world are very disagreeable, but it is also productive of some good. The state of the air is extremely conducive to health; it contributes surprisingly to the cure of old ulcers and cutaneous eruptions. Persons laboring under fluxes and intermitting fevers, generally recover in an *Harmattan*; and they who have been weakened and relaxed by fevers, and sinking under evacuations for the cure of them, particularly bleeding (which is often injudiciously repeated), have their lives saved, in spite of the doctor. It stops the progress of epidemic diseases: the small pox, fluxes, and remittent fevers, not only disappear, but they who are laboring under these disorders, when an *Harmattan* comes on, are almost sure of a speedy recovery. Infection is not then easily communicated. In the year 1770, I had above three hundred slaves on board a ship in *Whydah* Road, when the small pox appeared among them; the greater part of these were inoculated before an *Harmattan* came on, and about seventy of them underwent that operation a few days after it set in: the former got very well through the disorder; none of the latter had either any sickness or eruption. We thought we had got clear of the disorder, but in a very few weeks it began to appear among these seventy: about fifty of them were inoculated the second time; the others had it in the natural way. An *Harmattan* came on, and they all recovered, except one

one girl, who had a malignant ulcer on the inoculated spot, and died some time afterwards of a locked jaw. These salutary effects may probably be not universal, especially where the *Harmattan* may come laden with the noisome effluvia of a putrid swamp, which is not the case in *this* part of the country.

I am sorry to be obliged to dissent from such respectable authority as that of Dr. *Lind*, to whose labors we are so much indebted for his valuable directions for preserving the health of seamen. I presume his account of the *Harmattan* is derived from information, and not from his own observations, which are universally so just. Had he experienced it in person, he could not have called it "fatal and malignant;" and that "its noxious vapour" was destructive to "Blacks as well as Whites," or that "the mortality which it occasioned" "was in proportion to the density and duration of the fog." He seems to confound the *salubrity* of the *Harmattan* with those baneful effects to the constitution that follow the commencement of the *periodical rains*, in April and May.

These rains are ushered in by hard gusts of wind, from the north-east and east-north-east, called *Tornadoes* (from a corruption of the Portuguese word *Trovoada*, a thunder storm) which occur usually on the full and change of the moon, about the latter end of March, and in the months before mentioned: they are accompanied by severe thunder and lightning, and a very heavy shower of two or three hours continuance, which softens the surface of the earth, that had been parched up by the preceding *Harmattans*, and a succession of six or eight months dry weather in that burning climate, and gives an opportunity for the collected, stagnating,

and putrid vapors, confined under its arid surface, to rise and escape: these, volatilized by the solar heat, which beams forth with redoubled force when the *Tornado* is over, strike the nostrils with the most offensive stench imaginable, and occasion many bilious vomitings, fluxes, remittent and putrid fevers of the worst kind. Besides these, which are *annual*, there seems to be a collection of pestiferous vapor, which remains imprisoned for a longer period, and does not emerge above the surface oftener than once in five, six, or seven years. The periods which I recollect to have been most fatal, were in 1755 or 1756, when Governor *Melville* and most of the gentlemen and garrison of *Cape Coast* died; and in 1763 and 1769.* The mortality in *some* of these years (for they were not all equally fatal to the *European* settlers) was so great, that, as Dr. *Lind* says, "The living" "were scarce sufficient to remove and bury the dead."

The fog which accompanies the *Harmattan* is occasioned by an infinite number of small particles floating in the air: they are so minute as to escape the touch, and elude every investigation that I could devise. I could not succeed in attempting to examine them by the microscope, though a part of them are deposited upon the grass, leaves of trees, and even upon the skin of the Negroes, and make them appear whitish, or rather greyish. These particles do not fly far over the surface of the sea. The fog is not so thick on board the ships in *Whydah* Roads, at two or three miles distance from the shore, as it is on the *Beach*; and in proportion to the distance from the shore, the fog decreases. At four or five leagues distance from it the fog is entirely lost, though the wind is felt ten or twelve leagues off.

* The year 1775 was also fatal to many.

DESCRIPTION OF THE METHOD OF CATCHING THE SWORD-FISH, IN THE GULPH OF MESSINA, IN SICILY.

FROM THE ABBE SESTINI'S LETTERS.

YESTERDAY morning, very early, I went to see that celebrated, and, at the same time, agreeable method of catching the sword-fish, which the Greeks called Xiphion. I should not fulfil my engagements, did I neglect to give you an account of it in the fullest manner, with all the circumstances attending it.

Having mounted my horse, I set out for the Pharos, and having rode about three miles, I arrived at a church called the *Madonna*, or the church of our Lady della Grotta, which appeared to me, as it has to several Sicilian authors, to be built on the ancient foundation of the temple of Diana. Its round form, which is still observed, and its antique pillars, both of Cipolin and yellow marble, have been employed in the construction of the modern edifice. Mr. D'Orville makes mention of it in his work on Sicily, and relates every thing concerning it that Fazello and other authors had said before. It is in this place that one first begins to see the barks destined for the purpose of catching the sword-fish, and which, being stationed at certain distances from the Pharos, occupy a space of about seven miles.

These barks, which the Italians call feluccas, are disposed two by two, at equal distances. They are absolutely unrigged, and in each of them there is a mast about sixty palms in height, having a square piece of wood near its upper extremity, through which it rises several feet. This piece of wood serves to support a man, who clings to the end of the mast, and who is stationed there to point out to the fishers, who are near him in other small barks, what fish they ought to strike with their harpoons.

Along the mast a ladder of ropes is placed perpendicularly, for the pur-

pose of ascending with the greater facility. There is also at the prow and the poop of these feluccas a large piece of wood, laid cross-wise, the extremities of which extend about a palm beyond each side of the bark. To these projecting extremities are made fast four large ropes, or stays, which are stretched to the top of the mast, to keep it firm, and to prevent it from shaking. Other pieces of wood, and even sail yards, are employed for the same purpose.

This fishery for the sword-fish, called, in Italian, *Pesce Spada*, is carried on in Calabria and Sicily. That of Calabria commences in the month of April, and continues till the end of June; and when this is finished, which generally happens on the 24th, that on the coasts of Sicily begins, and continues till the month of August. As I had an opportunity of seeing the latter, I shall confine my account principally to that; for with respect to the former, I could only tell you what I have heard.

The feluccas which were destined for this fishery, in number twenty-six, went early in the morning, and posted themselves in certain places, which had been pointed out to them as being most convenient for their purpose. These change their position every day, that is to say, those which are latest in arriving at the Pharos one day, take the first place the next day, opposite to the church of *Madonna della Grotta*, or Messina; and thus in succession, in order that the good and bad stations may be equally divided among each company of fishers. During the time that this fishery is carried on, no disputes arise; and this regulation is extremely just, because the produce of the fish is not shared among all the fishers, but is divided into as many parts as there

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are couples of feluccas, to avoid all subject of contest.

When all these feluccas are thus placed at equal distances, the fisherman who is chosen to be sentinel, mounts to the top of the mast: each felucca has its own. The felucca which is towards Calabria, has near it a small bark, called *Luntre*, or *Luntro*, from the Latin word *Linter*, which is about twenty-two palms in length, eight palms in breadth, and nearly the same in depth. The prow of it is broader than the poop, in order that the fisherman who is to strike the fish may have more room to take his aim, and place himself in such a manner as not to miss his blow. On the right and left it is enclosed by two small ballustrades, which serve as a kind of ornament.

The fisherman who is to strike the fish is furnished with different kinds of instruments. The first, for the sword-fish, is nothing else but a piece of round iron, exceedingly sharp, fixed to the end of a long, heavy pole, made of green ash. In the middle of this iron, there are two ears of the same metal, which come out with hinges, to render the wound more dangerous, and at the same time to retain the fish when it is struck. The second instrument for striking the *Pesci-cani*, or dog-fish, is different from the former, and has a point like that of a lance, with moveable ears. The third instrument is the *Fuscina*, or fork, used for striking a fish called *Aglia imperiale*. This fish is of the same species as the *Acus*, or Sea Needle; but those which are caught here weigh from twenty-four, and forty, even to eighty pounds avoirdupoise.

The small bark which I have already mentioned, and which is stationed near the felucca next to Calabria, has a small mast, about eight palms in height, furnished with a number of pegs or notches, on which the sailor rests his feet, to enable him to ascend to the top, that he may point out to the rowers where to find the fish. At the bottom of this small mast, a piece

of wood, twenty palms in length, is extended across the bark, projecting a considerable way over both sides, and an oar fixed to each end enables the fishermen to move the bark with more facility, when they have occasion to follow the fish in their flight.

These two oars are managed by three people: the one who is in the middle keeps his right hand on the oar fixed to the right side of the vessel, and moves with his left hand the oar fixed to the opposite side; the other two work the oars which are before them with both their hands. The latter must be very attentive to execute whatever is commanded by the person in the middle, who, properly speaking, is the steers-man. There are likewise, near the poop of the *Luntre*, two other oars, fixed in a kind of frame projecting over its sides. These oars are smaller than the rest, and are put in motion by two men, who exert all their strength to push the boat towards the fish, which generally make a thousand windings in the water, and swim in various directions.

When all the feluccas have arrived at their stations, some being near the shore, and others at the distance of an hundred paces from it, and when the small barks are ready to start on the first signal, the watchman mounts to his station, and when he perceives with his Lyncean eyes, from so great a height, the fish who swim at the depth of five, and even eight fathoms, he bawls out as loud as he can *vogua fuori*, 'keep farther out,' if the fish be towards Calabria; and *vogua a terra*, 'keep nearer the land,' if they are towards the shore; if they proceed towards the Pharos, he cries *vogua suizo*; and if towards Messina, *vogua a guizzo*. On this cry the watchman of the *Luntre*, or small bark, mounts to the top of his mast; the harpooner takes up his harpoon, and the rowers ply their oars with the greatest velocity, always following the course of the fish. They may then be heard to pronounce certain words, which are not mysterious, as some authors have pretended, but which are very common

mon among sailors. Such sounds are so many signals for them to exert themselves together, and to preserve that regularity which is necessary for moving quickly. When the fish are within sight, the harpooner throws his harpoon, which is fastened to the end of a long rope. This rope is let out when the fish is struck, and it serves, according to the idiom of these fishers, *dar caloma*, that is to say, to catch the fish, which they follow till it is dead. It sometimes happens that they are obliged to advance a mile before it has lost its strength; and this course they call *calumare*.

When the fish has been wounded, the felucca which is nearest to the shore of Messina dispatches a small bark, called *della morte*, or the death boat, to give chase to the fish, and to take it. If it happens that the animal is not mortally wounded, there are instruments in this vessel to strike it again. This bark is employed also to go before the fish, and make it change its course, that it may not be lost, or that it may not quit one post to enter into another. It is also for the same reason that the fishermen, by rowing sometimes on one side and sometimes on another, make the fish take whatever direction they choose, and retain them in their own district. Every *luntre*, however, has a right to follow the fish wherever it goes, provided that the fishermen do not lose sight of it, for, in that case, they are not allowed to disturb the district assigned to others.

Such is the fishery carried on every year in Sicily. That of Calabria is different. The fishermen there employ only so great a number of *luntres*, that these small barks enclose that part of the sea which extends from *Scylla* as far as *Palmi*, a space of about fifteen miles. As this fishery is carried on near the land, and as the shore is very narrow, on account of the number of high rocks that arise close to the sea, the fishermen take up their stations upon some of these, from which they make the necessary signals with a handkerchief, to point out the

places where they observe the sword-fish passing.

The fish caught on the coast of Calabria, are fish of passage; and those caught on that of Sicily, are returning. The former are most esteemed. The body of the sword-fish is round, and of a longish form, diminishing in size towards the tail. The sword, which extends from its snout, is three or four palms in length, and from four to six inches in breadth, according to the size of the fish. It has a hard skin, of a blackish color, but its flesh is exceedingly white. It is furnished with six fins, the largest of which is near its head; two smaller are situated near the tail, which is terminated in a kind of crescent: it has a fourth under the belly, and two towards the breast.

Though, generally speaking, the sword-fish is classed among the number of large fish, its flesh is very delicate, and has an excellent taste. It never occasions any inconvenience, even when eat to excess. The Apicii and the Luculli, that is to say, the richest epicures of the country, distinguish several parts in the body of this fish, which are much better than others, and which they call *Pettiti*, or *Appetiti*, the appetites. These parts are the palate, the testicles, and if it be a male fish, the jole, or the part next to the head. When the season has been successful, the flesh of the sword-fish is sold for about sixpence sterling the pound; but when it has been only moderate, it is sold for about sevenpence.

The fishermen begin their operations in the morning, and continue till late at night. The watchman of the felucca is changed every four hours; because it would be impossible for a man to remain in that painful situation during the whole day. These watchmen experience great cold in the mornings, and for this reason they are sometimes obliged to cover themselves with sheep's skins, before they ascend to the top of their mast. The fishermen of each division, who are fifteen in number, sleep in tents erect-

ed on the shore. There are also booths along the shore, placed at certain distances, for their convenience, in which there are people who sell bread, wine, and other provisions.

The death-bark departs about nine at night, and carries all the fish that have been caught to Messina, because it is forbidden to sell any of them on the spot, except a few *Pettitiis*, or choice bits, some of which I purchased for my dinner.

I saw several of these fish struck along the shore; and after hiring a small boat, at a place called *Li Carziri*, that I might have a better view of this spectacle, I approached a felucca, which had just caught two, the palate and jole of one of which I received. I amused myself also in seeing the fishermen strike other fish of the same kind, that I might be able to give a faithful relation of this fishery. I shall conclude this account with a very singular fact, which is, that certain worms, named *Sanguisuga*, or blood-suckers, adhere to the fins of this fish. These worms are of the same nature as those called *Lumbrici*. They have a great deal of hair towards their tails. In the space of an inch I observed a multitude of them. I was afterwards told that they are very troublesome to these fish, and that naturalists call them *sea feathers*.

A little distance from the spot where these sword-fish are caught, there is a place where six small barks are constantly employed in fishing for red coral. Between two and three thousand pounds weight of this beautiful marine production are procured annually from this fishery. The instrument used for collecting it is very simple. It consists only of two pieces of wood, each about five feet long, placed across one another, from the ends of which are suspended several small nets. To the centre of the cross is fixed a large stone, to make the machine sink. When the fishers have found a place where there are rocks, or grottoes, which they suppose to be covered with coral, they let down their instrument, and drawing it up and letting it down alternately, find the coral in the small nets suspended from the cross.

I saw also fished up at the same time, some white coral, which is absolutely so by nature. It is a vulgar mistake to believe that it is coral not yet brought to perfection. This coral, or rather this species of madreporæ, shoots forth branches like a plant, which are disposed in the same form as the fingers of the hand. It is found only in small pieces. White coral was formerly highly esteemed, but at present, from its cheapness, it seems to be in little request.

ANECDOTES RESPECTING THE MAN WITH THE IRON MASK.

THE person distinguished by this title was an unknown prisoner, sent in the greatest secrecy to the isle of St. Margaret, in the Mediterranean, near Provence, and afterwards removed to the Bastille. The following anecdote respecting this prisoner, while confined at the former place, is related by the Abbè Papon, in his *Tour through Provence*.—One day, while Mr. Saint Mars, the Governor, was discoursing with him, and standing in a kind of gallery opposite to his chamber, to see that no person was approaching, the son of one of his friends entered, and advanced to-

wards the place where he heard the sound of voices. As soon as the Governor perceived him, he shut the door of the apartment in which the prisoner was, and running up to the young man, asked him, in great confusion, if he had heard their conversation. The young man having replied in the negative, he made him immediately depart, and wrote to his friend, that *his son's adventure had nearly cost him his life; and that he had sent him back for fear of his falling into the like imprudence.*

“On the 2d of February, 1778,” adds the Abbè, “I had the curiosity

"to enter the apartment in which this unfortunate prisoner had been confined. It receives no light but from a window to the north, which is constructed in a very thick wall, and secured by three iron bars, placed at equal distances. This window looks towards the sea. In the citadel I found an old officer, seventy-nine years of age, belonging to the *Compagnie Franche*, who told me that he had often heard his father, who belonged to the same corps, relate, that a barber perceiving one day, under the prisoner's window, something white floating on the water, took it up, and carried it to Mr. Saint Mars, the Governor. It happened to be a very fine shirt, carelessly folded up, upon which the prisoner had written from the one end to the other. Mr. Saint Mars, after having unfolded it, and read the lines, asked the barber, with seeming disorder, if he had not had the curiosity to read what it contained. The latter assured him that he had not; but a few days after he was found dead in his bed. This fact the officer heard both his father and the almoner of the fort repeatedly relate, and he considered it to be incontestible. The following also appears to me to be equally authentic, after every testimony I could collect on the spot, and in the monastery of *Lerins*, where the tradition is preserved. Search having been made for a female to attend upon the prisoner, a woman of the village of *Mongins* came to offer herself, persuaded that it would be the sure means of making the fortune of her children; but when she was told that it would be necessary for her to give up all thoughts of seeing them again, and even to renounce all connection with the rest of mankind, she refused to shut herself up with a prisoner, whose acquaintance would cost her such a sacrifice. I should observe, that a sentinel was placed at each extremity of the fort, who had orders to fire upon any

boat that approached within a certain distance. The woman who served the prisoner died in the island of St. Margaret. The officer's father, of whom I have spoken, and who in certain things was the confidant of Mr. Saint Mars, often told his son, that he went at midnight to carry the body from the prison, and that he conveyed it on his shoulder to the place where it was interred. He imagined it to be the body of the prisoner himself, who had died, but it was only that of his servant; and it was upon this occasion that another female was sought for to replace her."

It is likewise said, that during the time that this prisoner was detained here, the Governor was accustomed to bring him his food, and then to retire after he had shut the door of his apartment. One day he wrote some words with a knife on a silver plate, and threw it out at the window, towards a boat which happened to be near the shore, and almost at the bottom of the tower. A fisherman, to whom the boat belonged, took up the plate, and carried it to the Governor, who appeared to be greatly astonished. "Have you read what is written upon that plate," said he, "or has any one seen it in your hands?"—"I cannot read," replied the fisherman: "I have just found it, and no person has seen it." This man, however, was detained until the Governor was well assured that he had spoken truth; after which he dismissed him, saying, "it is very happy for you that you cannot read." La Grange Chancel relates, in a letter addressed to the editor of the *Année Littéraire*, that when Saint Mars went to conduct the man with the iron mask to the Bastille, he said to his conductor, "Does the King intend to take away my life?" "No, my Prince," replied Saint Mars, "your life is in perfect safety; only make no resistance." "I knew," added he, "a person named Dubuiffon, cashier to the famous Samuel Bernard, who, after being some years in the Bastille,

"Bastille, was removed to the isle of
 "St. Margaret, and, with some other
 "prisoners, confined in an apartment
 "directly over that which was occu-
 "pied by this unknown prisoner.
 "This man told me, that by means
 "of the funnel of the chimney, they
 "could discourse, and communicate
 "their thoughts to one another; but
 "that, having one day asked him
 "why he concealed his name, and
 "the reason of his being shut up there,
 "he replied, that this confession would
 "cost him his life, and occasion the
 "destruction of all those to whom he
 "might reveal the secret."

The following extract, respecting
 this prisoner, is taken from the Jour-
 nal* of Mr. Jonca, who was Lieute-
 nant Governor of the Bastille at the
 time when he arrived there. "On
 "Thursday, the 18th of September,
 "1698, at three in the afternoon,
 "Mr. Saint Mars, Governor of the
 "Bastille, arrived, for the first time,
 "from the isle of St. Margaret, having
 "brought with him in his litter a
 "prisoner who had been confined at
 "Pignerol. This person's name was
 "not mentioned, and he was kept
 "always masked. He was at first put
 "into the tower, called La Basiniere,
 "until night should arrive, at which
 "time I conducted him myself, about
 "nine, to the third apartment in the
 "tower, called La Bertaudiere, which
 "I had taken care to furnish com-
 "pletely for him before his arrival,
 "having received orders for that pur-
 "pose from Mr. Saint Mars. In
 "conducting him to the said cham-
 "ber, I was attended by Mr. Ro-
 "sarges, who had accompanied Mr.
 "Saint Mars, and who was appoint-
 "ed to serve and to take care of the
 "prisoner.—Monday, November the
 "19th, 1703, the unknown prisoner,
 "still concealed by a mask of black
 "velvet, which Mr. Saint Mars had
 "brought with him from the isle of
 "St. Margaret, found himself yester-
 "day a little worse as he was coming

"from Maf, and died this day, at
 "ten in the evening, without much
 "apparent illness.—Tuesday, Nov.
 "20, 1703, the same prisoner was
 "interred, at four in the afternoon,
 "in the church yard of St. Paul, and
 "the expences of his funeral cost forty
 "livres."

This is almost all that is, with cer-
 tainty, known respecting this strange
 personage, except what is contained
 in an extract from the register of bu-
 rials, in the parish church of St. Paul,
 at Paris, which is as follows:—"On
 "the 19th of November, 1703, Mar-
 "chially, aged forty-five, or there-
 "abouts, died in the Bastille, and his
 "body was interred in the burying
 "ground of the church of St. Paul,
 "on the 20th of the said month, in
 "the presence of Mr. de Rosarges,
 "Major, and Mr. Reilh, Surgeon-Major
 "of the Bastille, who have signed,
 "&c."

It is also certain, that the trunk of
 the body only was interred, and that
 the head, which had been cut off, and
 then divided into small portions to
 disfigure it, was interred in different
 places; that after the prisoner's death,
 an order was given to burn every
 thing that he had used, such as lin-
 nen, clothes, matress, and coverlets;
 that the plaster of the apartment in
 which he had been confined was care-
 fully scraped, and the walls new white-
 washed; and that the Ministry carried
 their precautions so far, that all the
 panes of glass were destroyed, lest he
 should have left some mark on them
 which might discover who he was.
 His mask was not of iron, as is com-
 monly supposed, but of pieces of
 whalebone, covered with black velvet,
 and fixed behind with a padlock, seal-
 ed. It was made in such a manner,
 that it was impossible for him to put
 it aside, or to pull it off himself; but he
 could eat and drink without being
 greatly incommoded.

Those who attended him had or-
 ders to kill him if he discovered him-

* This Journal, printed in Father Griffet's *Treatise on the different Kinds of Proofs*
which establish the Truth of History, is extremely curious.

self; but he was refused nothing that he asked for. His greatest taste was for linnen of an extraordinary fineness. He played upon the guitar; his table was plentifully supplied, and the Governor seldom sat down in his presence. An old physician belonging to the Bastille, who had often attended this singular man when sick, declared that he never saw his face, though he often examined his tongue, and other parts of his body. He was of a fine stature; his limbs were exceedingly well made, and his skin was somewhat brownish. He had something engaging in the sound of his voice; never complained of his situation, and suffered nothing to escape from him that could give the least intimation of his rank or quality.

What is most astonishing is, that when he was sent to the castle of Pignerol, the place where he was first confined, no man of any note disappeared in Europe. Mr. de Chamillard was the last Minister who was acquainted with this strange secret. When on his death bed, his son-in-law, Marshal de la Feuillade, conjured him to inform him who that stranger was who had been known by the title of *the man with the iron mask*; but Mr. de Chamillard replied, that it was a state secret, and that he had taken an oath never to reveal it.

A prisoner removed with so much caution, who was compelled to be always masked, and to whom even the Governor testified great respect, must undoubtedly have been a person of considerable rank; and on this account several historians have endeavoured to discover who he was. The different opinions formed upon this

subject are as follow; and though the evidence in support of them appears equal, some have given the preference to the last, as being the most probable.

First, then, some have supposed this prisoner to be the Duke of Beaufort.* This opinion is founded upon a letter written by Mr. de la Grange Chancel, to Mr. Freron, in which he says, "During my residence at the 'isle of St. Margaret, I learned the following particulars respecting the 'man with the iron mask. Mr. de 'la Motte Guerin, who was Governor of that isle at the time that I was detained there, assured me that this prisoner was the Duke of Beaufort,† who was said to have been killed at Candia, when it was besieged by the Turks, and whose body was never afterwards found, according to all the accounts then published. If we, indeed, consider the turbulent spirit of the Duke of Beaufort, and the part which he took in all the commotions at Paris, during the civil war under the minority of Louis XIV. the violent measures pursued to secure him will not appear astonishing, especially as his office of High Admiral gave him daily an opportunity of thwarting the designs of the Ministers who had the care of the Marine department. The Count de Vermandois, the King's son by Madame de la Valliere, was substituted in the place of this Admiral, who appeared to be so dangerous."

In refutation of this opinion, it may be observed, that, at the period when the man with the iron mask was confined, the authority of Louis XIV.

* Francis de Vendome, Duke of Beaufort, son of Caesar, Duke of Vendome, was born at Paris, in 1616. He distinguished himself early by his courage, and was present at the battle of Avein, in 1635; at the siege of Corbie, in 1636; at that of Hesdieu, in 1639; and at that of Arras, in 1640. He was accused of having attempted the life of Cardinal Mazarin, and was imprisoned in the castle of Vincennes, in 1643, but he made his escape thence five years after. During the civil wars, under the minority of Louis XIV. he was employed by the party who opposed the Court to raise the populace, by whom he was adored, and whose language he spoke: on that account he was called the *King of the Black-guards*.

† As being author of the celebrated Philippicks.

was fully established, and the royal authority perfectly secure. It is, therefore, very improbable, that the Duke of Beaufort should be so formidable as to induce the court to pursue such measures respecting him, while a single word would have been sufficient to displace or to banish him; besides, the Duke of Beaufort had long before that period returned to his allegiance, and there was nothing afterwards in his conduct that merited reprehension. The prisoner with the iron mask was always represented as a young man, fond of neatness and elegance in his dress; whereas the Duke of Beaufort was, or must have been then very old, and it is well known, that he was remarkable for being a sloven. In short, the Marquis of St André Montbrun, who was an eye-witness to his death at the siege of Candia, speaks of that event in these words: "The Duke of Beaufort did not wait for day-light to give the signal for an assault; the French army were thrown into confusion, and whilst he was running to every quarter to rally them, he was killed, and his body confounded with the rest of the dead. It was never well known in what manner he was killed, but it is certain that the Grand Vizir sent his head to Constantinople, where it was carried through the streets for three days on the point of a lance, as a mark of the Christians having been defeated." To this may be added, that notwithstanding the Duke of Beaufort's rank, the Governor of the Bastille would never have shewn so much respect towards him as he shewed towards this prisoner, and the detention of this nobleman would have been on the part of Louis XIV. or his ministry, a piece of cruelty equally useless as ridiculous.

A second opinion is, that this personage was the Count de Vermandois, son of Louis XIV. by Madame de la Valliere. This opinion, founded upon the relation of the author of

Secret Memoirs, was supported also by the Jesuit Griffet, a long time confessor to the Bastille, who had an opportunity of searching the most private archives of that prison, and whose evidence on this account may be considered as having some weight. In the *Secret Memoirs*, the following account is given of this affair. "The Count de Vermandois, natural son of Louis XIV. one of his greatest favorites, and almost of the same age as the Dauphin, but of a quite different disposition, forgot himself so far one day, as to give the young Prince a box on the ear. This action having been too public to remain unpunished, the King made him join the army, and sent word to one of his confidants to spread a report soon after his arrival, that he was attacked by a contagious disorder, to prevent any one from being around him; afterwards, to give out that he was dead, and while his pretended funeral should be celebrated with great pomp and splendor before the eyes of the whole army, to convey him with the utmost secrecy to the isle of St. Margarent, which was punctually executed. The Count de Vermandois never quitted this prison till he was conveyed to the Bastille, where he died some years after."

The relater of this anecdote begins by saying, that the Dauphin and the Count de Vermandois were almost of the same age, but this is a mistake. The Dauphin was born in 1661, and was consequently six years older than the Count de Vermandois, who was born in 1667. At the time when the pretended blow was given, the Count was sixteen years of age, and the Dauphin twenty-two; the latter was also married, and had a son, known by the title of the Duke of Burgundy. They were therefore too far advanced in life to quarrel like mere children; besides, the Count de Vermandois was mild, affable and polite, and his figure displayed

displayed all the graces of his mother. Towards the end of the year 1682, Louis XIV. having discovered that he had been engaged in some extravagant debauch, after a severe reprimand, banished him from the court for some time. He did not appear there again till towards the end of October, 1683, to take his leave before he set out on his first campaign, which absolutely refutes the story concerning the box on the ear given to the Dauphin. This circumstance is not said to have happened before his disgrace; it must then have taken place after his return; but it is certain that he remained at court only four days, which must have been otherwise employed, and that he was besides greatly mortified with the punishment he had suffered, and far from being inclined to any excess.

It may be observed also, that there were too many attendants around the Dauphin, not to make such a rash action immediately public. All the accounts of that time say, that the Count de Vermandois was taken ill on the 12th of November in the evening, that a malignant fever appeared the next day, and that he died on the 18th. Louis XIV. and all his ministers could not have communicated that fever to him. They must, therefore, have been under the necessity of persuading this passionate and rash prince to act the sick man for six days; they must also have bribed or gained over his physicians, and secured the confidence of Gossas the priest, whom Madame de la Valliere engaged to attend her son to the army, and who came back inconfolable for the loss of his young master, after having seen him breathe his last. All these improbabilities give us reason to disbelieve that the man with the iron mask was the Count de Vermandois. With regard to age, that of the man with the iron mask agrees as little with the age of the Count de Vermandois, as with that of the Duke of Beaufort; the one

was by far too young, and the other by far too old.

A third opinion is, that this prisoner was the Duke of Monmouth, natural son of Charles II. king of England, by Lucy Walters. The great affection which the people of England entertained for this nobleman, and an idea he had conceived that they only wanted a leader to drive James II. from the throne, engaged him to undertake an enterprise, which might have perhaps succeeded, had it been conducted with more prudence. Having landed at Lyme, in Dorsetshire, with scarcely an hundred followers, he soon saw his little army increased to the number of six thousand men. Several towns declared for him, and, encouraged by the favorable reception which he had met with, he assumed the title of king, maintained his legitimacy, and declared that he had proofs of the marriage of Charles II. with his mother. James, alarmed at his progress, sent a considerable body of men to oppose him; a battle was fought in the neighborhood of Bridgewater, in which Monmouth's party were at first superior; but being basely deserted by Lord Gray, who commanded the cavalry, they soon began to give way, and after a short conflict, were entirely defeated. The unhappy Monmouth, in attempting to effect his escape, was taken prisoner, and being conveyed to London, was beheaded on the 15th of July, 1685. This execution was attended with all the usual formalities; but Mr. Hume tells us, that his partisans flattered themselves, and not without some foundation, that the person put to death was not the Duke of Monmouth, but one of his most faithful adherents, who resembled that nobleman, and who being caught had the courage to die in his stead, and to give him that proof of his zeal and attachment.

It is certain that a report prevailed in London, that an officer of

his army had suffered for him, and on this report, a lady of great quality having, by the force of money, prevailed upon those who had it in their power to open the coffin, and having examined the right arm of the body, instantly exclaimed *Ab. It is not he!*

But without dwelling on popular reports, the timorous character of

James II. and the political circumstances of the times, seem to correspond very well with this opinion. With regard to another person substituting himself in the place of the Duke of Monmouth, there is nothing impossible in this, when it is considered how much he was beloved and adored by his friends.

LETTERS RESPECTING BARBARY, AND THE MANNERS AND CUSTOMS OF THE BEDOUIN ARABS.

BY THE ABBE POIRET.

[Continued.]

LETTER X.

TO DR. FORRESTIER.

IT is not, my dear Doctor, among the petty sovereigns of Africa that we must look for the magnificence and luxury of the potentates of Europe. The chief of a horde of shepherds cannot display the ostentation of riches, and even if he could, the policy of the country requires that the wealthy should conceal their treasures under the veil of poverty.

When I arrived at Ali Bey's habitation, after having rendered my journey thrice as tedious as it might have been, by passing through a number of by-roads, I found him seated on the ground at the entrance of his tent. A bundle of straw served him for a throne, and nothing distinguished him from his subjects, who appeared before him bare-footed, but his dress, which was a little finer, and that he wore shoes. When informed who I was, he advanced to meet me, stretched out his hand, as a token of friendship, and received me with much affability. I informed him, by means of my interpreter, that having heard a very favorable character of him, I had come to solicit his protection, and permission to traverse his dominions, begging him to grant me every necessary security for that purpose. The prince made

a very polite answer to my compliment and request, assuring me that the *Christians were his good friends*, that they might always command every thing in his power, and that he was extremely sorry that the plague prevented them from visiting him so often as he wished. He then conducted me to a tent near his own, where we conversed some time on his connection with la Calle, the desire which he had of promoting its commerce, and upon various other topics that engaged his attention. He accompanied me into the different tents of that Douare which I wished to see, and a report being spread that I was the *Papas* of la Calle, I received the compliments of all the *Moorish Papas*, who treated me as one of their brethren.

In the evening, Ali Bey sent me some *courcoucon*, and after I had supped, he came and passed an hour in my tent, and very obligingly asked me if I stood in need of any thing. Our conversation happening to turn upon the Spaniards, who were expected to come and bombard the city of *Bonne*, I entertained him with an account of the settlements of the Europeans in the new world, of the manner in which they were conquered, and of the immense riches possessed

possessed there by the Spaniards. He appeared to be very much interested in my relation; and he asked me a thousand questions, which announced his admiration and surprise at what he had heard. More than an hundred Moors, seated in a circle around us, listened to us with attention, and we did not separate till towards midnight. The Moors sup and retire to rest at a very late hour. Ali Bey ordered a little clean straw to be brought me, upon which I stretched my wearied limbs, but the excessive heat prevented me from enjoying rest. Besides this, the continual barking of dogs, the lowing of the herds, the neighing of horses, and the songs of the Moors, which are far from being agreeable to the ear, drove sleep from my eyelids during the whole night.

We started very early in the morning, and were soon surrounded by a crowd of Moors, who stretched out their arms that we might feel their pulse*, and requested that we would bleed them. It is a kind of madness among these people to imagine themselves sick, when they know that one is a physician: as they have the greatest confidence in letting blood, we were obliged to gratify some of them; we therefore went through all the tents with the lancet in our hand, and the crowd became so great, that I apprehended I should be forced to perform that operation, the surgeon having told them in joke that I was as skilful as he. I had like to have experienced the fate of Sganarelle; but Ali Bey, to whom I had recourse, delivered me from the importunities of these hypochondriacs. The women shewed the same desire as the men. We found them squatting in a corner of their tents, employed in the management of their family affairs; and by signs, which are readily understood in any country, it appeared to me that they were as fond of us as of their husbands; but we were far from entertaining the sentiments with which they wished to inspire us. I never beheld more dis-

gusting figures: they were almost all infected with the itch; they had a noxious smell, and their ragged clothes were entirely covered with filth.

Ali Bey's authority over his subjects is unlimited. His will is a law; whatever he commands is executed, and he may gratify his cruelty, his injustice, and his inhumanity, without fear of punishment. The victim whom he sacrifices expires without an avenger; and those who are most bound to protect him, are the first to kiss, in the most abject manner, the bloody hands of their despot. I however found Ali Bey less ferocious than the rest of the Arabs. His reign, which has been only a year, has not yet been sullied by any crime. He is not so dissolute in his manners as his brother El Bey, who was on the throne before him. He is firmly attached to the Mahometan religion, the precepts of which he faithfully observes, and he punishes with the utmost severity whoever dares to transgress the law of the Prophet. He is grave in his deportment; his figure is genteel, his gait is slow and formal, and his countenance is noble, and marked with dignity. He has good natural parts, and appears to be very shrewd when his interest is concerned. Being a pretty good politician, and full of ambition, he would be capable of undertaking great enterprises, did not the Bey of Constantine, to whom he is subordinate, continually harass him, and watch his motions with the utmost vigilance. His authority is not yet sufficiently established to make any great attempt. I was surprised, my dear doctor, to find a public school in the Douare of Ali Bey; and still more so to find it under the direction of a person who was blind. This Arab assembled in his tent about a dozen of children of both sexes, whom he taught to read and write. I observed, that their countenances bore no marks of weariness or dislike, which are too common in our schools in Europe: labor, on the contrary,

* I forgot to mention that I was accompanied by the Surgeon Major of La Calle.

appeared to them like amusement. They had only one book, the *Coran*, which the master knew by heart, and on that account he was able to follow his scholars, and to correct them when they went wrong. They chanted their lessons, each with good humor, and in a different tone; and though this music was not very engaging, I with pleasure saw that, among these savage hordes, the infancy of man is not abandoned to cruel and merciless tyrants, who often blast the rising flowers of genius at an early period of life. The farthest advanced taught the younger part to write, under the direction of the master. Instead of paper, they had pieces of board covered over with a white kind of varnish; a bit of reed, cut in a very rude manner, supplied the place of a pen; and yet with this coarse apparatus they wrote well, and with great expedition. When they had thoroughly learned the task prescribed to them, they washed their tablets, upon which another was written, always taken from the *Coran*. As soon as the time of their remaining in school was expired, each child embraced the master, who treated them with great mildness and affability, and returned him thanks for his attention. How much I wished at that moment to have had before me one of those surly pedagogues, who know no other plan but that of inspiring children with sentiments of fear and disgust! Since I am on the subject of children, permit me, my dear doctor, to delineate a portrait of them, such as I have found them here. I am of opinion that they are not unworthy the attention of the traveller; and that it is of the highest importance to observe, in all countries, the expansion of reason, the progress of ideas, and what constitutes, even at the tenderest age, the original character of man; a character which education, interest, policy, and the passions almost entirely deface at the more advanced periods of life. In the greater part of what are called civilized nations, children scarcely come into the world, when they are dressed

out like puppets. They are made to join their hands, and to repeat by rote a few Latin words: they are taught, above all, to behave with politeness, that is to say, to dissemble and lie; and they are afterwards whipped for these faults, when their parents themselves are the first victims of their own folly. Among the Moors the case is quite different: children there are entirely abandoned to nature; they are seldom caressed, and never beaten. Left to themselves, they are employed only in exercises suited to their age: they run, sport, quarrel, and become friends; the most ardent heat does not intimidate them; dampness and cold never hurt them; they throw themselves into the water when covered with sweat, and never sit down until they have quenched their thirst. They can scarcely walk when they accompany their fathers to watch their flocks; mount on the back of the fiercest bull, and learn, without bridle and without spurs, to manage the most untractable courser. Familiar with every animal, they caress the sheep, play with the goat, and in close pursuit follow the ox which escapes. By these exercises, in which they delight, and to which they are never compelled, they become nimble, vigorous, and robust; and are enured to that kind of life for which they are destined. They are accustomed early to bear hunger, thirst, and the most laborious journeys, without complaining. Their parents do not spoil them by sedulous and minute attention. An over-tender mother never runs to wipe the sweat from the dusty forehead of her son; if he complains, he is not heard; and if he cries, she is insensible to his tears, which are never the means of obtaining what he desires. He is never prevented from doing what he chooses, but his parents never humor his caprice. If he wishes for any thing, he must procure it himself; if he cannot, he must give it up and remain contented. He never asks for any thing; he searches for it, and by this he accustoms himself to suit his desires

desires to his situation. But this want of complaisance on the part of the parents, and this kind of independence in the children, do not establish between father and son those gentle bonds and that tender relation which, to feeling hearts, are the highest enjoyments of life. As soon as children can support themselves without the help of those to whom they owe their existence, they often abandon them, and they become afterwards strangers to one another. Their common fate gives them little concern, unless they are united by reciprocal interest: affection for parents is, therefore, a sentiment almost unknown to the heart of an Arab; a brother is often an enemy to a brother, and the ties of blood, which are thought to be so strong among mankind, are here of little force. Rousseau, who saw only by the light of his own genius what few can see by experience, judged well, that in the man of nature the ties of blood must be unknown, and that the reciprocal tenderness of relations is only the effects of mutual care, and services given and received.

With regard to the real character of children, it is the same in Barbary as elsewhere; I have seen them, as among us, lively, eager, full of spirits, and of petulance; but an observation which struck me, and which will no doubt surprise you also is, that their reason, though never cultivated, is much forwarder than that of our children, whose minds are harrassed in the tenderest age. Amongst us, a boy of twelve or thirteen, stuffed with the pedantical notions of our public schools, scarcely knows how to speak before people older than himself. He is timid, bashful and dull, and he constantly imagines that he sees before him his preceptor, armed with his formidable ferula.

On the other hand, the young Arab wandering in the open plains, surrounded by tents, herds and flocks, and enjoying in full liberty all the pleasures of youth, and the bounties of nature, encreases his ideas even

with the objects of his delight. As he is restrained by no dread, nor checked by any sense of decency, he speaks his sentiments in a firm and manly tone, without being in the least abashed. If he wishes to be heard, he is under the necessity of attracting the attention of those to whom he addresses himself, otherwise he receives no reply. If he asks questions, none of them are answered but as they deserve it; but at the same time, if what he says appears to be just, he is heard with attention, and treated as a man, and this mark of distinction inspires him with a desire of acting like one. Thus, without much trouble, without master, and without tutors, the young Arab formed by nature, early acquires those ideas which relate to his occupation, as well as that vigor and noble carriage which announce the dignity of man. Their gestures are not stiff, but natural, and their pace is neither too quick nor too slow. It is firm and manly; but it is only during infancy that the Arabs can follow the dictates of nature. Their mild and simple manners, gradually destroyed by brutal prejudices, by the sanguinary dispositions of their fathers, corrupted by the shameful irregularities to which they abandon themselves, totally disappear, and the blood-thirsty savage is substituted in the room of the man of nature.

One of the first prejudices instilled into a child, is an implacable hatred against all Christians; and this idea becomes so strengthened by age, that there is not a single Arab who does not consider it as a meritorious action to deprive one of life. I have been often greatly harrassed by these children, who flocked around me as I approached the tents, and I was even under the necessity of tamely putting up with the grossest insults, which I received from them. They spat in my face, threw stones at me, and loaded me with abuse. Had I attempted to correct any of them for their insolence, their fathers would not have failed to take their part, and to revenge at my expence, an injury done
by

by a *dog** to a servant of Mahomet. I have many times seen some of the women, who had never met a Christian, shudder when I appeared, and fly from me as if I had been a monster. However, by means of some little present, I always rendered them more tractable, and when I had familiarised them so far that they ventured to look at me, they appeared astonished, when they found me like another man. Several of them could not be persuaded that I was a Christian; they particularly examined my gloves, which I was obliged to wear on account of the excessive heat, and which were green, taking that to be the color of my skin, but when I pulled them off they were in the utmost amazement. Every attempt that I made to explain their utility was in vain, for as these people are acquainted only with what is necessary, they laugh at all superfluities. They think themselves superior to us, because they have fewer wants; and indeed it must be owned, that they are in the right. How often by their raillery have they given me useful lessons! I was accustomed, for example, to use a spoon when I ate of their *courcouon*, instead of forming it into balls with my fingers like them. They laughed much at this superfluous piece of furniture, which self-love made me renounce, and I perceived, that notwithstanding my awkwardness in using my fingers, they esteemed me more, when they saw me abandon my own customs and adopt theirs. Thus, my dear Doctor, are all those commodities so much boasted of in Europe, treated in the desert. In the eyes of an Arab mountaineer, luxury is contemptible, and the strongest proof to him of our meanness, is our effeminacy. I have the honor to be &c.

L E T T E R X I.

TO THE SAME.

WHEN I studied with you, my dear Doctor, the elements of natural

history, you was so often a witness to my pleasures, that it is just you should now be a partaker in them. I have lately made some very long excursions. On one side, I have been as far as the bottom of the celebrated Mount Atlas, and on the other, almost to the borders of the great desert, called the desert of Saara. What rich and magnificent views have I beheld! How striking and sublime is the aspect of simple nature! A thousand times have I admired in Europe the numberless productions of our globe, those exotic plants collected at a great expence in our hot houses, and those furious animals which we keep captives; but my admiration never made a lasting impression. All these objects, magnificently displayed, and ranged according to systems, which were never those of nature, exhibited rather to gratify the eye than to speak to the heart, appeared to me to be more the work of man than of nature. I fatigued myself to no purpose in transporting each object to its proper place; I formed a chimerical world, and became the dupe of my own errors. The most fertile genius, and the most exalted imagination, can never rise to the sublime beauties of the universe, or relish them, whilst they have before their eyes only the labors of men.

What delightful enjoyments have I experienced for some months past, in traversing these wild and uncultivated regions! Every thing here is as it ought to be, and notwithstanding the apparent disorder, every object is in its proper place. The bramble grows by the side of the laurel, the myrtle is entwined with the thorn, and the olive and the pomegranate can be pulled only by forcing one's way through thick bushes. The flowers, decked out in all the pride of nature, do not display at the expence of their posterity, a splendor which dies with them; the oak does not bend its head to form a shady alley, but it rises majesti-

* The mildest expression they bestow on a Christian.

cally towards the heavens, and the fruit trees, without yielding productions foreign to them, present theirs in abundance, and need not the assistance of art. In a word, nature appeared to me in a rude but fertile state; I beheld rich pastures, immense plains diversified at every step, hills covered with heath, mastick trees, broom and holly-oak; inaccessible rocks, barren and scorching sands, gloomy, and often impenetrable forests, with marshes and immense lakes; such is the general aspect of Numidia. The rivers and streams do not impetuously roll their waters in narrow regular channels; their progress is slow, they appear to be almost in a state of stagnation, continually branching out into different arms, and in their wandering course they sometimes form beautiful cascades over the rocks and stones: sometimes glide gently along over a bed of sand, white as snow, through groves from which they issue, cool and limpid, and uniting a little farther, form in the bosom of the mountain extensive lakes, abounding in water fowl, which hovering night and day over their surfaces, find in their reeds and bulrushes a safe and commodious asylum.

The forests have a venerable aspect, which carries back the imagination to the remotest antiquity. In traversing these vast solitudes, through which an awful silence reigns, one every moment expects to meet with some of the primeval men. If they are no longer to be found, their works, however, prove that they once existed. I cannot, my dear Doctor, convey by words any idea of what I experience, when I contemplate the ancient ruins which every now and then start up to view in these wild and uncultivated regions. Walls half destroyed, columns extended on the ground, the remains of highways, and inscriptions almost defaced, are objects which excite in my mind a tender and pleasing melancholy. I combine the past and the present, compare ages, and when alone, I imagine myself to be surrounded by the shades of those over whose ashes I tread. The Getulians,

the Numidians, the Carthaginians and the Romans, if I may say so, rise from their tombs; the manes of the unfortunate Dido, the virtuous Regulus, and the rigid Cato, present themselves to give me emphatical and affecting lessons on the shortness of life, and the fleeting glory of the proudest empires. I behold then only broken sceptres, reversed thrones, and nations vanished for ever. I seek for the rich Carthage, the powerful kingdom of Jugurtha, the conquests and labors of Rome, and find in their stead nothing but a few ruins, almost concealed from the view by briars and bushes. Yet how eloquent are these ruins! How forcibly do they speak to the heart! How oft have they made me forget the present age! How oft, with my eyes fixed on the mouldering remains of some ancient city, have I passed whole hours absorbed in the most profound meditation! But this sweet melancholy assumes a different character in proportion as I advance into the desert countries. The view of Nature abandoned to herself, the sight of the rocks which surround me, the gloom of a forest which I penetrate, the noise of birds of prey, the cries of the timid animal they are devouring, the roaring of savage beasts, are all objects which in my imagination form so many different pictures. Sometimes my ideas assume the sublime strain of the works of the Creator; sometimes my heart is melted when I reflect on the bloody wars which the more ferocious beasts carry on against the weaker; and at others I shudder with dismay on hearing the tremendous howlings of the king of animals.

These emotions form so many enjoyments, to which one must always be a stranger in a cultivated country. The grand and sublime beauties of Nature often disappear under the hand of man. He unites all that can please the eye, contribute to his happiness, or add to his convenience; but he destroys the magnificent painting of the universe, and in its stead exhibits to the philosophic observer confusion, monstrous absurdity, and constraint.

Cultivated

Cultivated Nature will never have the same effect upon the imagination as Nature in a state of rudeness. The former is neat, agreeable, and commodious; it recreates and amuses; but the latter is beautiful amidst its awful horrors; it is majestic and striking: it is the retreat of the man of genius; for, in the midst of deserts and hideous rocks, the most lively imaginations acquired that fire and strength which will make their works be admired till the end of time. It is thither always that the poets transport us when they are desirous of elevating the soul by grand and magnificent scenery. With what respect does old Thermosyris, the Priest of Apollo, inspire us, when composing hymns in honor of that deity in an aged forest? Who is not filled with veneration on a recital of the mysterious worship of the Druids amidst their sacred groves? In short, my dear doctor, I have a thousand times experienced that a view of rude Nature cherishes those noble passions which are so nearly allied to sentiment. It is there that a disconsolate husband raises a tomb to the wife whom he adored; and there, amidst the silence of Nature, and at a distance from the haunts of men, he bedews with the tears of affection the dear ashes of his faithful companion. Every object around him flatters his grief; every thing gratifies his pleasing melancholy. Would we, on the contrary, paint sportive gambols, gentle smiles, Love and the Graces, we must follow the brilliant imaginations of the poets, to roscate bowers, on the flowery banks of some crystal fountain, and to places embellished by cultivation and art.

Let the light and frivolous mind,

therefore, go and warm its ideas; and let the tender and feeling heart cherish its sensibility in those rural retreats, where the occupations and the pleasures of innocent rusticks, and the smiles of cultivated Nature, melt the soul, and present scenes equally varied as agreeable; but let the man of genius never give birth to his sublime productions, but at a distance from the habitations of men; and let him behold nothing in the universe but the works of the Almighty; but let him behold them such as they were when they came from his hands; for whatever man attempts to bring to perfection he degrades, like those painters who bedaub with new coloring the magnificent pictures of Michael Angelo: in attempting to revive, they disfigure them, and the masterly touches of the Florentine disappear under the false glare of their pencils. Let us leave also those virtuosi, who in their cabinets collect poultry specimens, disposed with much order under the finest glasses. It is not there that the observer of Nature will go to study; he will view the stone in its quarry, the mineral in its vein, and the exotic plant in its native soil. It is not sufficient for us to contemplate one superb column; we must see the whole edifice, and admire the harmony that reigns in the distribution of each piece. Such are the reflections which have often occupied my thoughts during my travels. At every step I compared what I had seen with what I actually saw; and I could not comprehend how man, in his folly, can have the presumption sometimes to imagine that he can excel Nature. I have the honor to be, &c.

MISCELLANEOUS ANECDOTES.

AMBROSE Spinola passing through Paris, in 1604, had the honor of supping with Henry IV. Towards the end of the entertainment, the King having asked him what particular plan of operations he meant to

pursue in the next campaign, Spinola gave him a faithful relation of his intentions; telling him how and when he would begin, where he would construct a bridge, on the Scheld, to lead over his army; and where he proposed

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STATUE of the BOY pulling a THORN.
from his FOOT.

Published as the Act directs Nov. 2. 1789. by C. Forster N^o 41 Paulry.

ANTHONY'S CATALOGUE OF THE ARTS AND CRAFTS.



STATUE of a BOY pulling a THORN.

Found by 1807.

Found at the base of the statue, in the garden of the house of the Duke of Devonshire.

to erect a small fort. In a word, he did not omit the minutest circumstance. Henry, who was interested for the Dutch, immediately wrote to the Prince of Orange an account of all that he had heard, telling him that he must take every thing in a quite contrary sense, as it was not probable that Spinola, who was suspicious of him, would have disclosed his real designs. This able General, however, did every thing that he had said. He had been so free with Henry IV. only because he was persuaded that he would not believe him. On this account that Prince said, "Others deceive me by speaking falsehood, but Spinola has deceived me by telling the truth."

Anne, of Austria, mother of Louis XIV. had so soft and delicate a skin, that she could not procure cambric fine enough to make sheets and shifts

for her. Cardinal Mazarin on this account said, that if she went to hell, her punishment would be to sleep in linnen.

The late King of Poland had a magnificent glass above his chimney-piece, which, on account of its singular size, was of inestimable value. One of his domestics happening one day to break it, his Majesty said, in a passion, "I'll lay any wager it is in pieces." "Not quite, Sir," replied the servant, with the utmost indifference.

Cardinal Richelieu one day said to Mr. Lort, a celebrated physician, "How happens it that my hair is white, and my beard black, while the contrary is the case with you."—"My lord," replied the physician, "it is because you labor hard with your head, and I with my jaw-bones."

A SHORT ACCOUNT OF THE STATUE OF THE BOY PULLING A THORN FROM HIS FOOT.

WHATEVER may have been the intention of the artist in this statue, which represents a boy pulling a thorn from his foot, we have so little information respecting it, that nothing certain can be known. Some have said that it was erected by the senate to the memory of a shepherd, named Martius*, who brought some important news to Rome, without stopping to pull a thorn from his foot, which had got into it by the way, and which pained him very much. This opinion, however, seems to be founded merely upon popular report.

Maffei thinks that it is rather the same as that celebrated statue of bronze, by Telephanes Phoeus, mentioned by Pliny with much praise in the following words, *Laudant ejus Larissam et spinarum Pentathlonum*†; because the figure very well agrees with those youths who exercised themselves in running, leaping, wrestling, boxing,

and throwing the discus; and who, from the number of these sports, were by the Greeks called *Pentathli*, and by the Romans *Quingertiones*, from the words *Pentathlon* and *Quingertium*, which signified these five different kinds of exercises, as they are expressed by the Greek poet:

Ἄλκιμα ποδὶ κίβητι δίκην ἀνοῖτα πᾶντι.

We may therefore suppose this youth to have been one of those who exercised themselves in running; and the artist, either from imagination or because such an accident really happened, to have represented him in this posture, to render his victory more celebrated, as he obtained it while suffering very severe pain. Pliny's expression, *Pentathlon spinarum*, may be referred to this action, especially as the figure is naked, which those used to be who performed in such exercises. If we allow this statue to be the

* *Aeneas Martii pastoris simulacrum.* Tom. ii. p. 228.

† Plin Lib. 34. cap. 8.

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See *Nouvau Voyage D'Italie par Missen.*

fame as the Pentathlon of Telephanes, it was probably one of those which were placed by Vespasian in the Temple of Peace, as appears from what Pliny says in the end of the same chapter: *Atque ex omnibus, quæ retuli, clarissima quæque in urbe jam sunt dicata a Vespasiano principe in templo Pacis,*

aliisque ejus operibus, violentia Neronis in urbem convecta et in sellariis domus aureæ disposita.

This statue, which is in the Campidoglio, at Rome, has always been admired by connoisseurs, and is considered as a most excellent model for young artists.

ON MENTAL PLEASURES, AND THE ADVANTAGES OF RETIREMENT.

BY MR. ZIMMERMAN.*

MEN of exalted minds have always, amidst the bustle of the gay world, and even in the brilliant career of heroism, retained a taste for mental pleasures. When engaged in the most important affairs, notwithstanding the many objects that employed their attention, they were still faithful to the Muses, and perused with delight the works of the sublimest geniuses. They were not of opinion that a great man has no occasion for reading or knowledge; nor were they ashamed even to become writers sometimes themselves. When Philip, King of Macedonia, invited Dionysius the younger to dine with him, at Corinth, he began to ridicule the father of that Prince, because he had been both a Sovereign and a poet, and had composed odes and tragedies. "When," said Philip, "could your father find leisure to write all these trifles?"—"In those hours," replied Dionysius, "which you and I spend in drunkenness and amusements."

Alexander was remarkably fond of reading. Whilst he was filling the world with the fame of his victories, marking his progress by blood and

slaughter, marching over smoking towns and ravaged provinces, and though hurried on by fresh ardor to new victories, he found the time hang heavy upon him in Asia, because he had no books. He therefore wrote to Harpalus to send him the works of Philistius, several of the tragedies of Euripides, Sophocles, and Æschylus, and the Diatribes of Thales.

In Pompey's army, Brutus, the avenger of the liberty of Rome, spent among books all those moments which he could spare from the duties of his office. He not only read and wrote when the army was at rest, but even the night before the celebrated battle of Pharsalia, which was about to decide the empire of the universe. It happened then to be the middle of summer, the weather was exceedingly hot, and the army was encamped in a marshy plain, the servants who carried his tent were long in arriving, and as he was extremely tired, he bathed whilst he was waiting for them, and made his body be rubbed with oil, about noon. After taking a little refreshment, whilst the rest were lost in sleep, or forming conjectures

* *From Solitude, considered as it influences the Mind and the Heart*, by Mr. Zimmerman, Aulic Counsellor and Physician to his Britannic Majesty, at Hanover. This work is highly esteemed in Germany; and the author received for it a public mark of approbation from the present Empress of Russia. On the 26th of January, 1785, a courier, sent by the Russian Envoy at Hamburgh, brought Mr. Zimmerman a small box, from her Imperial Majesty, containing a ring richly set with diamonds, and a gold medal, having on one side a figure of the Empress, and on the other, the date of the happy reformation of the Russian empire; with a note, written by her own hand, in which were the following words: "To Mr. Zimmerman, Counsellor of State, and Physician to his Britannic Majesty, to thank him for the excellent precepts which he has given to mankind, in his book on Solitude."

concerning the event of the next day, Brutus was busy in his tent, and employed even till night in making an extract from Polybius.

No one was better acquainted with mental pleasures than Cicero, who says, in his oration for Archias, "Why should I blush on account of these pleasures, since for so many years they have never prevented me from relieving the wants of others, or deprived me of the courage to attack vice, and to defend virtue? Who can, or dare reproach me with consecrating to the Muses and to learning, that time which others employ in trifling amusements, shews and entertainments; which they waste in gaming and gluttony, or devote to idleness and pleasure?"

Full of the same spirit, Pliny the elder employed every moment of his life. While at his meals he made some one read to him; and when he travelled he had always a book and conveniencies for writing along with him. Of every thing that he read he made extracts; by this application he wished to double his existence, and he thought that he did not live while he slept.

Pliny the younger read wherever he could; when hunting, at table, in his walks, and whenever his affairs would permit him. He, indeed, laid it down as a rule, to prefer his duty to those occupations which were merely amusements; and it was for this reason that he was always so much inclined to solitude and repose. "Shall I never break," said he, "those chains which retain me? Are they indissoluble? No, I dare not hope for such an event. Every day adds new torments to the former. Scarcely is an affair finished, when a new one starts up, and my oppressive chain becomes every moment longer and heavier!"

Petrarch was always low spirited when he did not read or write, or at least when he did not indulge in poetic dreams, near limpid rills, mountains, and rocks; or in valleys enamelled with flowers. That he might not

lose time when he travelled, he wrote in all the inns where he stopped. One of his friends, the Bishop of Cavailon, fearing that the ardour with which he read and wrote, at Vaucluse, would entirely destroy his health, already greatly deranged, begged him one day to give him the key of his library. Petrarch consented, not knowing what he was going to do with it; but the good bishop locked up his books and his writing desk, telling him, that he forbade him to read or write for ten days. Petrarch obeyed, though with the greatest reluctance; but the first day appeared to him to be longer than a year; the second he had a head-ache from morning to night; and the third he found himself early in the morning very feverish. The good Bishop, touched with his condition, restored to him his key, and at the same time his health and his spirits.

The late Earl of Chatham, as I have been informed by his own nephew, my intimate friend, was in his youth cornet in a regiment of dragoons, which were quartered in a small town in England. While here he discharged his duty with the utmost attention, but during the rest of his time he remained alone, neither paying nor receiving visits; and employed himself in reading the most celebrated authors of antiquity, both Greek and Roman. In his manner of living he was exceedingly temperate, because he wished to eradicate an hereditary gout, by which he was attacked at a very early period of life. His feeble state of health made him, perhaps, fond of retirement; but it was certainly in solitude that he laid the foundations of that glory which he afterwards acquired.

Perhaps I shall be told, that men such as these great characters of antiquity are no longer to be found. I am, however, of opinion, that there is not the least foundation for speaking or thinking in this manner. Was Chatham in greatness inferior to a Roman? Will his son, who, when yet a youth, thundered forth in the senate

like Demosthenes, and like Pericles rivetted the attention of those who heard him, and who now, when little more than thirty years of age, makes himself be feared and respected as the Prime Minister of England, ever think or act with less dignity than his father? What men have once been they may always be. Greece or Rome never had on their thrones, or at the head of their armies, a great man whose equal may not be found at present in Europe. Wherever there is a desire for it, wisdom and virtue profit, at court as well as in private life; in the palace of kings, equally as in the cottage. Wife solitude is never so respectable as in a palace; there in profound tranquillity may one weigh the most important affairs, live calmly, happily and contented, when one does, without ostentation, whatever duty requires, and when one knows how to avoid the contagion of frivolous and weak minds. One may acquire instruction every where, and at all times, and if one cannot return and begin a new career, one may at least employ properly that time which remains, unless the man who has it in his power to display the lamp of truth chooses rather to be satisfied with the feeble light of the glow worm.

Solitude, at the last, will render us superior to all the changes and miseries of life. He who cannot find happiness in riches, pleasures, and grandeur, may with a book in his hand forget all his care under the friendly shade of every tree. In solitude he enjoys a pleasure much more exquisite and varied, a pleasure always lively, and always renewed. In his closet his mind acquires fresh strength. Exercising it gives him a much more agreeable sensation of his existence, and of what he may become some day if he chooses. If his views are great, and his inclinations pure, his pleasures in solitude become still greater, and he learns more and more to dread the poison offered to him by flatterers, and more and more to

despise idle and frivolous amusements.

He who shuns mankind to gain their love and esteem, he who rises with the sun to converse with the dead, is doubtless not booted at the break of day. His horses remain in the stable, and his door is shut against the idler; but he studies men and mankind without ever losing sight of the world. Whatever he has seen or learned, is reviewed. Every observation he has made in life, either confirms a truth, or refutes a prejudice. Every thing is there unveiled, stripped of its false splendor, and exhibited in its natural state. Truth, in the ordinary commerce of the world, walks always under a veil, but here she shews herself naked. *Al! How happy is that man who has attained to a situation in which he is not under the necessity of telling lies!*

These pleasures of solitude are not incompatible with our duty to the public, for they themselves are the noblest exercises in which we can employ our faculties for the good of mankind. Where can it be accounted culpable to honor and adore truth, and to be fond of speaking it? Would it be a crime to have the boldness sometimes to declare publicly what an ordinary man cannot do without trembling, and to prefer a generous liberty to continual slavery? Is it not by the channel of writers that truth is diffused among the people, and displayed before the eyes of the great? Do not good authors inspire mankind with the courage to think, and is not liberty of thinking the cause of the progress and improvement of reason? It is precisely for this that men live in solitude: to throw aside their chains that they wore in the world; and it is for this that he who thinks in solitude, speaks boldly what in society he would not hazard but with precaution. Timidity never makes its way into solitude. He who is not afraid of retiring under his peaceful shades, is never accustomed to stoop to the pride and insolence

lence of the great, but with boldness tears from their despotism the mask which covers it.

Solitude procures sublime pleasures which never fade, at least, if the soul does not inhabit a body entirely decayed. These pleasures give serenity in every situation of life, afford consolation in all misfortunes, are never exhausted, and become at length as necessary to our happiness, as trifling to the debauched man of the world, who is continually running from door to door in quest of contemptible joys, which he never finds. Cicero, speaking of these pleasures of the mind, says, "They improve our youth, delight us in our old age, and encrease our happiness. In adversity they are our consolation and resource; they recreate us at home; are no burden to us when abroad, they shorten our nights, and accompany us in our journeys, and when we retire into the country." "The Belles Lettres," says Pliny the younger, "are my delight and comfort, I know nothing more agreeable, and there is no misfortune which they cannot alleviate. In the affliction which I feel for the sufferings of my wife, and the sickness, and sometimes death of my servants, I find no relief but in my studies. Though in my closet I am sensible of the magnitude of my evils, they, however, become more supportable."

Solitude alone is the channel through which every thing flows that men conceal in the ordinary commerce of life. There one may comfort the heart, if one can, and chooses to write. We indeed do not always write when we are alone; but we must be alone if we wish to write. He who is desirous of philosophising, or composing a poem, must have his mind free from embarrassment; he must not hear his children crying every moment at the door, nor must his servant appear twenty times in a morning before him to present him with as many cards. In short, he must be left alone. He must follow all the efforts of his imagination, and whe-

ther in the open air or in his closet, whether stretched on a sofa, or under the cool shade of a spreading tree, he must be at liberty to change his situation, when and as often as he chooses. To write with advantage, he must feel in his soul an irresistible desire, and be able to indulge his taste and ardor, without impediment or constraint. If all these advantages are not united, one will be continually interrupted, and reduced to the necessity of remaining inactive, waiting for the impulse of genius. Without this impulse, an author can never write well, and unless he watches for those fortunate moments, when the head is disengaged and the imagination warm. He must be revived by cheerful prospects, animated by the noblest sentiments, and by a contempt for every obstacle. His efforts will then be attended with success, and thoughts and suitable expressions will flow spontaneously from his pen.

Petrarch felt this internal impulse when he tore himself from Avignon, the most vicious and corrupted city of his time, to which the Pope had transferred the papal chair. Though honored with the protection of the Holy Father, of Princes, and of Cardinals, still young and full of noble ardor, he exiled himself from that brilliant court, and retired to the famous solitude of Vacluse, at the distance of six leagues, where he had only one servant to attend him, and possessed only a small house and a little garden. It was there that he finished all those works which he had before only sketched out. Petrarch wrote more at Vacluse than at all the other places where he had resided; but he there continually polished his works, and was a long time before he could resolve to publish them. Virgil calls the leisure which he enjoyed at Naples, ignoble and obscure, but it was there that he wrote his *Georgics*, the most perfect of his productions, and that which shews in almost every line that he wrote for immortality.

Every great and excellent writer has
this

this noble view, and casts his eye with enthusiasm towards posterity. He who is inferior, requires a more moderate recompense, and sometimes obtains what he seeks for; but they must both separate from the world, haunt the cool shades of the groves, and retire, as it were, within themselves. Whatever, therefore, they do or accomplish, is the effect of solitude; the love of which must engage their whole soul, if they are desirous of writing any thing to reach future ages, or that may be worthy the notice of contemporary sages. Every thing that can be done by profound thinking, is due to solitude; one there reviews and arranges whatever in the world has made an impression upon him, and there he sharpens his weapons against old prejudices and stupid opinions. The faults of mankind strike the moral writer, and the desire of correcting them actuates his soul, as much as the desire of pleasing actuates that of others. The desire of immortality, however, is the last which a writer ought to indulge. No one needs attempt it if he has not the genius of a Bacon, if he cannot write as well as Voltaire and Rousseau, and if he is not able like them to produce masterpieces worthy of being handed down to posterity. Such as these alone, can say, we find ourselves animated by the sweet and consoling thought that we shall be spoken of when mouldering into dust, and by that approbation from the mouths of our contemporaries, which makes us divine what will be said of us hereafter by mankind, to whose instruction and happiness we have devoted our labors; and whom we have loved and esteemed, though not yet in being. We feel within us those seeds of emulation, which incite us to rescue from death our better part, and which secure from oblivion the happiest moments of our existence.

By the feeble light of the lamp, as well as on the throne, or in the field of battle, the desire of glory produces actions the remembrance of which dies not with us, nor descends with

us to the tomb. The meridian of life becomes then as brilliant as its morning. "The praises," says Plutarch, "bestowed upon great and exalted minds, only spurs on and arouses their emulation. Like a rapid torrent, the glory already acquired hurries them irresistibly on to every thing that is grand and noble. They never consider themselves as sufficiently rewarded. Their preceding actions are only a pledge of what may be expected from them, and they would blush not to live faithful to their glory, and to render it still more illustrious by the most splendid deeds."

He who is disgusted with blind adulation, or insipid compliments, will feel his heart warmed, when he hears with what enthusiasm Cicero says, "Why should we dissemble what it is impossible for us to conceal? Why should we not rather be proud of confessing candidly, that we all aspire at glory; that this inclination is strongest in the noblest minds? The philosophers themselves, who write on the contempt of glory, prefix their names to their works, and by this prove, that however they may inculcate such maxims, they themselves wish to be spoken of and praised. Virtue requires no other recompense for all the labors which it undertakes, and all the dangers to which it exposes itself. What would remain to it in this short and miserable life, were it deprived of this flattering reward? Had not the soul a foretaste of futurity, did it not extend its thoughts beyond the narrow limits of this world, men would never undertake such painful labors, subject themselves to so many cares, or so often expose their lives to danger. But the most virtuous men have within them a noble and irresistible desire, which, night and day, hurries them on to glory, and prompts them not to abandon entirely to the present generation the memory of their name, but to transmit

"mit it to the latest posterity. Would we who serve the state, who every day expose ourselves to dangers for it, pass our whole lives without a single moment of ease, and barely believe that life puts an end to the scene? When so many great men have taken care to leave to posterity the representation of their features in marble or brass, ought we not rather to wish to leave a true picture of our hearts and minds? As for me, in every thing I have done, I believed that I was sowing for posterity, and diffusing throughout the universe the eternal remembrance of my name. Whether after death I shall be sensible of my glory, is of little importance, but I at present enjoy that flattering hope."

This is the true enthusiasm with which we ought to endeavor to inspire the children of the great. Were any one happy enough to kindle up that generous flame in their young hearts, and to accustom them to continued application, how we

should then see them shun the pernicious pleasures of youth, and enter with dignity the career of heroes! What actions might we not then hope from them, what glory and what knowledge? To exalt the minds of the great, it is sufficient to inspire them with an aversion for every thing that is mean, and with a distaste for every thing that unnerves the soul and the body; to remove from them those vile and contemptible flatterers, who talk of nothing but the pleasures of sense, and who seek to acquire interest and fortune, only by leading them into crimes, by vilifying before them every thing that is great, and by rendering them suspicious of every thing that is good. The desire of enlarging one's glory by noble deeds, and of increasing one's credit by internal dignity and greatness of soul, has advantages which neither birth nor rank can bestow, and which cannot be acquired even on the throne, without virtue, and without having one's eyes continually fixed on posterity.

A REMARKABLE INSTANCE OF THE FORCE OF HABIT.

THE celebrated John Ernest de Biron, Duke of Courland, was the son of a goldsmith, and was destined by his father for the profession of a notary. Having acquired all the knowledge necessary for this employment, he began to be tired of living in a small country town, and resolved to take the first opportunity of quitting it. Baron de Goertz happening to stop at that town on account of the unexpected death of his secretary, Biron had an opportunity of offering his services to him, and the Baron being taken with his person and accomplishments, carried him along with him to Stockholm, where the knowledge he had in different languages, and his readiness in reading and copying all kinds of characters, rendered him extremely serviceable to his employer. As he had been accustomed from his infancy to handle old charters,

titles and deeds, most of them on parchment, he had contracted a habit of always keeping some of them in his mouth while he was writing, and however disagreeable the taste may be supposed, he insensibly found great pleasure in it, as happens to those who accustom themselves to chew tobacco. This habit becoming a strong desire, he was never without some bits of old vellum in his pocket, which he cut properly for chewing, and as his various occupations placed him continually in the midst of abundance of public writings, he easily found enough to gratify this singular passion.

One day, while employed in the office of Baron de Goertz, upon some dispatches of importance, his appetite for parchment was awakened, and having observed a piece quite covered with smoke lying on the corner of a table, without farther

ther reflection he put it between his teeth, that he might indulge himself in sucking its delicious juice; but being intent upon his business, the pleasure he enjoyed made him forget what he had to fear. After three or four hours application, finding himself more at leisure, he perceived not only that he had the parchment still in his mouth, but that having chewed it so long and without mercy, he had reduced it to such a state that it was entirely defaced and disfigured. Having opened it with great eagerness to see what it contained, he was greatly surprised and alarmed to discover by a few of the characters which had escaped the ravage of his teeth, that it was a piece of the utmost importance respecting Livonia, which was the subject of a very warm dispute between the King of Sweden and the Czar Peter. As soon as he found his mistake, he gave himself up for lost; his imagination could not devise any excuse, and he was plunged into the utmost despair, when his master entered the apartment. The Baron found him with the fatal parchment still in his hand, and thinking that he perceived in his countenance and looks extraordinary signs of embarrassment, curiosity prompted him to enquire into this mystery; but he was greatly astonished, when in casting his eyes upon the parchment, he discovered by several marks that it was one of the most important and necessary pieces in his possession. The first emotions of his passion not permitting him to make any enquiry, or to hear the excuses of his secretary, he concluded that Biron had been bribed by the Muscovite minister to betray him, he therefore loaded him with reproaches, and instantly ordered him to be conducted to jail.

When Biron was at liberty to reflect upon his misfortune, though he could find nothing that rendered him really guilty, the presumption against him being of such a nature that it could never be construed into

a proof, he conceived that his ruin was inevitable, and he thought less of vindicating himself, than of preparing for his last moment. However, as a candid acknowledgment of his fault could not be in the least prejudicial to him, he resolved to relate the whole affair simply, though he had little hopes that his judges would believe him to be sincere. Four of the most venerable senators of Stockholm, after reproaching him with his crime, exhorted him to make a full confession of the correspondence he had kept up with the Muscovites; but all they could draw from him was an account which he gave with tears in his eyes, of the manner in which he acquired a habit of chewing old parchment. However weak this defence might appear, his simple and unaffected air made a strong impression on one of the old senators, whose experience enabled him to distinguish the signs of innocence and integrity. Examining him with more minuteness, he remarked, that while writing his deposition, and intent upon giving answers to the questions which were asked him, he stretched out his hand every now and then towards a writing desk which was upon the table, and drew from it several slips of old parchment with which it was lined, and by a kind of motion that appeared to be habitual, put them into his mouth. This circumstance made the senator conclude, that there was more probability in his relation, and on that account he interrogated him respecting his birth, and the force of this habit, and desired him to mention some instances of it, and to prove them. Happily for the prisoner, he had in his pockets a great number of small rolls of parchment, which he instantly produced. Their shape and their smell both agreeing with the idea which he had given of them, the senator from being his judge became his defender, and his character being established by other testimonies respecting his conduct and connections,

vions, Baron de Goertz was among the first to solicit for his liberty and pardon.

However, whether it was that he feared lest his weakness should again expose him to some new embarrassment, or that he was disgusted with the singularity of this adventure, he dismissed him from his service, after rewarding him liberally for what he had done. As there was little probability that a man rejected by the ministry in so public a manner, would find any opportunity of establishing himself in Sweden, the unfortunate secretary determined to quit it, and retiring to Courland, where his disgrace was not known, he engaged himself with the first man of business that chose to employ him. Fortune, who still conducted him by the hand, introduced him to the Receiver-general of Mitau, a man fond of pleasure, and who for some time had been looking for an expeditious writer, who might ease him of his burden, and take upon him the principal fatigue of his laborious occupation. Finding that Biron was every way suited for his purpose, he received him as his secretary, and in this new employment he displayed so much skill and assiduity, that he gained the esteem and affection of his master; but he still retained that fatal habit which had ruined him in Sweden. The Receiver having one day settled his accompts, returned with a receipt signed by the Duke of Courland; and considering it as a thing of the utmost importance, especially as his enemies had taken advantage of his turn for gaiety, to accuse him of dishonesty and dissipation, he delivered it to his secretary, enjoining him to lay it up, and to preserve it with great care.

Though this paper had not those qualities which could excite his old appetite for parchment, nevertheless

as an interval of some years had effaced the remembrance of his former disgrace, through absence of mind and the force of habit, he put it between his teeth, which in a little time entirely destroyed the Duke's name, in which all the value of the paper consisted. The secretary was not long in discovering his error, but it was too late to repair it. He conceived it to be of greater importance than it really was; and recollecting his adventure at Stockholm, was fully convinced that he was about to be exposed to the same danger. A little reflection, however, enabled him to profit by the past. A suspicion of treachery being what he had chiefly to dread, he resolved to anticipate, by an open confession, any enquiry that his master might make, and in the hopes of exciting compassion, and of meeting with greater indulgence, he began by relating the unlucky event which had obliged him to leave Sweden.

The Receiver readily comprehending the cause of his misfortune, and considering it only as a subject of laughter, because he was certain of easily repairing the loss, took pleasure in prolonging a scene which appeared to him highly ludicrous. At length, after comforting him by fresh testimonies of his confidence, he thought only of pursuing such measures with the court as were necessary for his own security, and in the account which he gave the Duke of all the circumstances of the affair, he did so much justice to the merit of his secretary, that the Duke was inspired with a desire of seeing him. His figure, and the conversation of a few moments, procured him the esteem of that Prince, and this daily increasing, he at length succeeded his master, by the favor of Anne Ivanowna, his spouse, whose favor he had gained by his great ability and talents. *

RULES

* John Ernest de Biron, or rather Biren, was made Duke of Courland, in 1737, by the interest of the Czarina Anne, niece of Peter the Great, and widow of Frederick Vol. III.

RULES FOR PREDICTING CHANGES OF THE WEATHER, BY THE BAROMETER*.

COMMUNICATED BY MR. W. JONES.

1st. **T**HE rising of the mercury prefaces, in general, fair weather, and its falling, foul weather, as rain, snow, high winds and storms.

2. In very hot weather, especially if the wind is south, the falling of the mercury foretells thunder.

3d. In winter the rising prefaces frost, and in frosty weather, if it falls three or four divisions, there will follow a thaw; but if it rises in a continued frost, snow may be expected.

4th. When foul weather happens soon after the falling of the mercury, expect but little of it; and the same infer, if fair weather succeeds shortly after its rise.

5th. When the mercury continues to rise for two or three days before the foul weather is over, expect a continuance of fair weather to follow.

6th. In fair weather, when the mercury falls much and low, and continues so for two or three days before the rain comes, then expect much wet, and probably high winds.

7th. The mercury generally rises very fast after great storms of wind, when before it was very low. Dr. Halley mentions that he once observed it to rise an inch and a half in six hours, after a long continued storm of south-west wind.

8th. The unsettled motion of the mercury indicates uncertain or changeable weather.

The words on the plate are not strictly to be adhered to, though they

will in general agree, for the height of the mercury does not so much indicate the weather as its motion up and down; to know therefore whether the mercury is actually rising or falling, observe,

1st. If the surface of the mercury is convex, (standing high in the middle) it is then rising.

2d. If the surface is concave, (standing low in the middle) it is then falling.

3d. If the surface is plain, or a little convex, it may be considered as stationary.

4th. A small shake of the tube will sometimes bring the mercury to its approaching height.

The foregoing rules are chiefly to be depended upon; but the following are not unworthy of regard.

1st. The greatest heights of the mercury are on easterly and north-easterly winds, and its lowest stations on southerly or westerly winds.

2d. A continuance of fair weather, the wind being in the north, and the mercury high or rising, is never succeeded by rain till the wind changes southerly.

3d. A continuance of rain from the south, is scarce ever succeeded by settled fair weather, before the wind changes either to the west or some point of the north.

4th. If the mercury falls when the wind is full south, it scarcely ever fails to be a sign of rain.

William, the former Duke. Being a great favorite with that Princess, she appointed him at her death, Regent of Russia; but in 1741, he was disgraced, and condemned to lose his head. This rigorous sentence was, however, mitigated, and he was banished into Siberia. In 1762, he was recalled by Peter III. and the year following was put in possession of his Duchy, the investiture of which, his son received from the King of Poland, in 1765. Biron died on the 28th of December, 1773, at the age of eighty-two.

* These Rules, together with a concise explanation of the nature and use of the Barometer, Thermometer and Hygrometer, neatly done up as a book for the pocket, price six pence, or on pasteboard, to hang by the instrument, price one shilling, may be had of Mr. Jones, No. 135, Holborn, or of the Publisher of the Magazine.

5th. If

5th. If it is going to be cold, frosty, or foggy, it rises pretty high; but if going to be windy or tempestuous, it well then sink very low, and as soon as the first storm is over rise again apace.

The barometer never fails to shew the true cause of the alterations of the weather, and we are thereby prepared to expect them; but it may sometimes happen, that the column of mercury will not alter its altitude agreeably to the foregoing rules, for when the atmosphere is charged with

more aqueous matter than it can dissolve (the atmosphere is known to be a dissolvent medium) the surplus will form clouds, and these produce showers of rain when the mercury stands *very high*; and for the contrary reason, there may be sometimes no rain when the mercury is *very low*. Hence it follows, that we are generally satisfied by the barometer what weather we may at all times probably expect, though sometimes the contrary may happen, and a general monitor (to any wise man) is better, than none at all.

REVIEW OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

FOREIGN.

VOYAGE DANS LA GRECE ASIATIQUE, &c. *A Tour through Asiatic Greece to the Peninsula of Cyzicum, Bursa, and Nicæa, with Observations on the Natural History of these countries.* By the Abbè Seltini, member of the Academy of Florence. Translated from the Italian. Paris, 1789. 8vo.

TRAVELLERS may be divided into two distinct classes: those who visit foreign countries merely for amusement, or to kill time, and those who travel for the purpose of acquiring instruction. Among the latter, whose motives, we must acknowledge, are by far the noblest, may be included the author of the present work, who, though his principal object was to become acquainted with the natural productions of Bythinia, Mount Olympus, and the peninsula of Cyzicum, gives a curious account of the antiquities he observed in the course of his journey, and of the manners and customs of the inhabitants. Botany above all is under particular obligations to him. At the end of the work he has added a list of the various plants that he found, properly classed and arranged: they amount almost to five hundred and fifty.

One thing to be remarked in this tour is, the care which the Abbè

has employed to characterize the different people with whom he had any intercourse. The reader will find the Turk every where ignorant and rapacious; the Greeks rustic in their manners, yet still possessing that amiableness of character for which they were distinguished. They groan under the galling yoke of despotism, but they are cheerful and gay, and dancing and rural sports are not yet entirely banished from among them. The Armenians engross all the commerce of the country, and are thence rich and avaricious. As for the Jews, they are the same as in other countries, dirty, and disgusting. The streets of Bursa are infected with the putrid stench which exhales from their habitations. The picture, however, which the author exhibits of the Bulgarian women, is much more agreeable. They are clownish and rude in their manners, but they have all that openness and good nature which is so often to be found, even among barbarians.

In this work the Abbè has adopted the epistolary style, as being the most proper for communicating observations in proportion as they are made. In the first letter, which is dated from Pera, May 10, 1779, he tells us that he expected to have been attended in his journey by Mr.

N^o 2 Goblis,

Gobbis, physician to the Grand Signior; but that some private affairs prevented him from enjoying that pleasure. He was, however, in some measure, indemnified for this loss by the Count de Ludolph, Envoy Extraordinary from his Sicilian Majesty to the Porte, who entrusted him with the care of his two sons, Constantine and Charles, and by the company of Mr. St. Prielt, brother to the French Ambassador, and of Mr. Auzet, who intended to go as far as Bursa.

Cyzicum, which was formerly an island, is situated between the 40th and the 41st degree of northern latitude, and may be about sixty miles in circumference, which pretty nearly agrees with the number of stadia assigned to it by Strabo.* It is about ten miles in length, and fifteen in breadth, and abounds with mountains.

This peninsula contains about twenty villages, some inhabited by Turks, and others by Greeks; the latter are the most numerous. They have an Archbishop, who in dignity is next to the patriarch; and who for the most part, resides at Constantinople. The Greek churches are in number twelve, and the whole population of the peninsula amounts scarcely to ten thousand, but it might maintain ten times that number. Artakki, its capital, is situated close to the sea, and is only a heap of wretched houses, or rather wooden huts, which admit the wind on all sides. The face of the country is agreeable, and vines are found here in plenty, which are not inferior to those of Italy. They are cultivated with great care, and the wines produced from them are all white, but of a harsh taste. A great part of them is transported to the black sea, and especially to the Crimea. The quantity made annually, is about thirty thousand barrels of Florence. The other productions of this coun-

try, are corn, but not in great abundance, olives, mulberry-trees, silk, and various sorts of fruits, such as apples, pears, plumbs, peaches, apricots, quinces, figs, jujubes, walnuts, &c. Most of the mountains which the author observed, consisted either of granite or white marble. The marble of Cyzicum has been always famous. Pliny speaks of the *Marmor Cyzicenum*, and Strabo extols the beauty of the buildings of Cyzicum, not only on account of their being built of marble, but because they were adorned with sculpture by the most eminent artists? *Cyziceni stateres*, was a proverb used by the ancients to express fine works of that kind; and *Cyzicena tinctura* was another, which referred to the effeminacy and luxury of the inhabitants. The marble of Cyzicum, which has greatly attracted the attention of naturalists, is the marble of the ancients. It is white, fine in the grain, and exceedingly hard. There are two kinds of it. In one the veins are blue, and run in a perpendicular direction; in the other, the veins run horizontally.

The Abbé seems to entertain no very favorable opinion of the Greek priests. Describing a spot, where he sat down under the shade of a spreading tree to repose himself, after a little excursion, he says,

A rivulet running rapidly along almost surrounded us, and winded across the plain towards a small Greek church, which one would have taken for a stable, while the priest who performed service in it, had more the appearance of a keeper of goats, than of a minister of the sanctuary. He was the thirteenth priest, I meant to say, the thirteenth Judas of the parish. The church was dedicated to the twelve Apostles, and opposite to the door, it had an altar of white marble, ornamented with festoons.

This dirty Greek priest, to console the beauties of Cyzicum, and to fill his purse, had devised a pleasant enough deception, which was to affix a *para*, or any other piece of money, to an image, and if the

* Quingentorum fere stadiorum ambitu,

Para adhered to it, he told them they would be soon married, but if it dropped to the ground, there were no more hopes, and the greater part of them abandoned themselves to the deepest melancholy. The cunning priest, for carrying on this deception, had a particular image prepared for the purpose by rubbing it over with glue; and by this invention he allays the fears of the young women of Cyzicum, who run in crowds to consult him, while he takes advantage of their simplicity and ignorance to draw money from their purses, and to fill his own.

The author gives the following account of some curious remains of antiquity near the spot where the ancient Cyzicum stood, and called by the Turks *Beseftin*.

This vast edifice, now entirely in ruins, is of a square form, and was built of white marble. Its architecture is of the Corinthian order, as appears by some of its architraves and cornices, which are scattered on the ground. In penetrating into its interior parts, you behold deep subterranean passages, the walls of which are constructed of large square stones. In advancing farther, you pass from one gallery into another, by very small doors, and find private stairs in the walls, which conduct you from these vaults to the portico of the edifice. It seems difficult to say, or rather to guess for what purpose this building was intended.

If we conjecture from the present denomination of *Beseftin*, it will be easy to perceive that the Turks, when they took possession of these places, substituted the above for the ancient name of *Merceria*, or for that of any other public building which the inhabitants of Cyzicum might have erected for the service of the city. Strabo says, that they had several magnificent arsenals, one of which was for arms, another for all sorts of instruments, and a third for corn. The construction, however, of this edifice, induces me to reject this opinion, for the subterranean galleries are only four fathoms in length, and I do not see that they were proper for holding grain, which the ancients had several other methods of preserving, * and still less for containing wood necessary for the construction of vessels. It is true, that jars and other vessels for containing wine and oil, might have been deposited there, but why should there have been such a superb portico before an edifice destined for that use?

It is more probable that these vast ruins are those of the *Heptaphonon* mentioned by Pliny, * and that these interior stairs were the places where those spoke whose words were repeated in a wonderful manner seven times. Pliny's account is as follows: "In the same city, speaking of "Cyzicum, nigh the Thracian gate, there "were seven towers, which repeated "words several times; the Greeks give "to this phenomenon the appellation of "echo. This indeed is occasioned by the "nature of the place, as often happens "where there are many valleys. The "same thing is observed at Olympia, in "the portico, which the inhabitants call "Heptaphonon, one word being thre "repeated seven times." Having given my opinion upon this ancient edifice, I shall leave it to others to examine by what means the above phenomenon was occasioned.

The walls of ancient Cyzicum are still standing entire, in some places here and there. They are exceedingly high, formed of large oblong blocks of marble and granite, found in the island, and it is easy to judge by their remains, that they enclosed a very large city. Cyzicum occupied an extensive plain, not far from the gulph, and extended as far as a small hill named *Urso*, which was a branch of mount Dyndime. Upon the top of this mount the Argonauts erected a temple in honor of the goddess Cybele, called on this account Dyndimene. Strabo says, that Cyzicum could vie with the first cities in Asia, either in extent or beauty; that it was governed by the same laws as those of the Rhodians, the Massilians, and the Carthaginians, and that its inhabitants were powerful in peace as well as in war.

In the sixteenth letter the Abbé gives an account of the diversions of the people in the neighbourhood of the city of Bursa.

As the time, says he, was exceedingly pleasant, we were happy to have an opportunity of taking a ride into the country, and we went as far as a place called *Ginar-burmé*, the point of the plane tree. This

* Frumentum ne corrumpatur chalcidica immixta præstat.

† Lib xxxvj. cap. 15.

place is not very far from the ancient walls of the city of Bursa, which are double. A canal may be here seen, which was constructed under the Greek Emperors, and from which water is conveyed into the town.

When we arrived at this place we saw several *kiohki*, pleasure houses, erected in the middle of a square: they are quadrangular edifices, of wood, standing by themselves, and at some distance one from another, to which a company of friends, or different families who are related, repair to enjoy the pleasure of conversing together, reclining upon sophas, carpets, or plain mats, smoking their pipes and drinking coffee.

A small stream, formed by the pure and limpid water of a fountain, flowed gently along in the middle, and round it were seated several Turks, quite motionless, who were looking at one another, smoking their pipes after the Persian manner, and now and then letting drop a word or two. The greatest pleasure of these people is to hear professed story-tellers, for whom there are wooden benches, raised like a pulpit. Seated on these they begin their speeches in so emphatical a manner, and accompany them with such singular and grotesque gestures, as are really astonishing. A man thoroughly acquainted with their language might have felt all the graces with which these romancers accompany their words, but to us they were entirely lost. If they produce any thing humorous, the auditors scarcely discompose their countenances with a smile, but they never interrupt the actor, who, whilst he is haranguing, smokes his pipe, and drinks his coffee; so grave and taciturn are these people. These wits, or story-tellers, are called *lasefan*.

There are also men amongst them who teach bears to dance, and carry them about to these assemblies. There are others who instruct apes to perform various tricks; and there are some who form a concert of Turkish music, accompanying their voice with the sound of a harp or *flageolet*, and the noise of several drums.

These people are accustomed also to partake of amusements among one another. For this purpose they go into the country, to public places, which they call *sefa*, where may be seen a group of trees, forming a vast shade, a stream that rolls its current along with a gentle murmuring, and upon its banks a *cavegi*, which supplies them with a pipe, and with coffee.

There may be seen a large company of Turks on one side, smoking, singing, and taking coffee; and on the other a troop of Armenians, some of whom drink without measure, while others amuse themselves in roasting a large sheep; in short, a curious medley of people, who on these joy-

ful days eat and drink as much as they can, remaining seated on the same spot from morning till night, and sleeping where they sit, when overcome by the fumes of wine.

The women, who are kept in such an abject state of slavery among these people, are seldom to be found at these festivals; but when that is the case, families only which are related assemble, and they are not fond of admitting strangers among them.

The Turks have also wrestlers, named *pehlevan*, who come to make a trial of their strength, and to divert the company. Generally a black wrestles with a white, both of whom being naked, and having only leather drawers, after rubbing their bodies with a shining kind of oil, attack, clasp, and shake one another, while all the sport consists in throwing one another on the ground. They have also mountebanks, comedians, and people who carry about puppets.

On our return to the town, Messrs. Auzet wished to entertain us with a representation of this kind. When we repaired to their house we found a dervise, who thummed on a psaltery, while two others played, one upon the *rehab*, and the other upon a kind of flageolet. These musicians composed the whole orchestra, and accompanied their instruments with the sound of their voices. During this time the master of the puppets was preparing a theatre, which on the drawing of a curtain appeared in the corner of the hall. In the middle of the theatre, there was a square piece of cloth, through which one could distinctly perceive the palteboard actors, moved by imperceptible threads.

The comedy was divided into three acts. It was called the *Caraghios*, or Black Eye; a word often in the mouths of both sexes, though the signification of it is not very decent. The *Caraghios* was a *Cinghend*, that is to say a Bohemian, or an Egyptian, who played his part dressed after the European manner, with a hat upon his head, and having for an actress a woman of the Seraglio of the Grand Sophy of Persia, who complained of his delay, and called out to him to make haste, telling him that she would not wait longer for him. The actor replied, with a sigh, *iki para daha*, "cease your complaints, I will give you two para more;" and thus ended the comedy.

Mount Olympus, which the Turks call *Kecise-daghi*, or the Mountain of the Cenobites, because it was formerly inhabited by Greek monks, as Mount Athos is at present, presents a curious field for the botanist, and on this

This account the indefatigable author was induced to pay a visit to its top. The Abbé tells us, that he is the first person who ever had the boldness to attempt that arduous journey.

Our caravan, says he, composed of fifteen horses, set out at four in the morning, having with us, besides a Janissary and our guide, Mr. de Simon and our hawks. After advancing about a mile towards the east, we reached those ridges which look to the west, and we soon arrived at that part of the mountain which consists of high steep hills, separated by deep valleys, through which torrents, swelled by the melting of the snow that remains there during the whole year, roll with an impetuous course. This first ridge of mountains, the whole extent of which is forty miles in circumference, stretch themselves out irregularly, and are surrounded by other mountains, that form the chain called Mount Olympus, and serve it as a crown. They are all covered with woods of the chestnut tree, the useful fruit of which are transported to Constantinople. The beeches, oaks, firs, elms, cornel, and pepper trees, are all low and stunted in these regions, very different in this respect from the chestnut and walnut trees, which are tall and robust.

After ascending for two hours, we arrived at a small plain, from which we could distinctly see the gulphs of Nicomedia and Mudagna, the isle of Princes, the whole plain of Bursa, and, had it not been for the thick fog below us, we should have had a view of Constantinople. Pursuing our route for an hour and a half, always in the same region, which I shall call the *hilly*, we came to an extensive plain, covered with low and languishing firs, the largest of which appeared to be decayed and rotten. This second region may be called that of the *plain*. We traversed it for half an hour, and halted to refresh our horses, which were little accustomed to such difficult roads; besides, it would have been almost impossible for us to reach the summit of the mountain on horseback. There were only three of the company who had that curiosity, the rest, expecting little pleasure from such an excursion, chose rather to guard our provisions from the birds of prey, to drink our healths, and to sacrifice to the god of repose.

Seeing, therefore, that the great Olympus was not terrified at our approach, Count Constantine, Mr. Auzet, and myself, set out, and having lost sight of the

second region, we entered the third, which abounds with small juniper bushes, having red berries, and which are continued to the very top. The summit is a small plain, which at present serves as a burying place for the shepherds, who in following their flocks in these exalted regions, sometimes tumble over a precipice, which is situated towards the north. This precipice is an immense and very deep hollow, in the form of a half moon, above which we observed several shepherds who were removing their flocks from it.

It will be needless for me to inform you, that when you arrive at the summit you enjoy the most beautiful prospect in the world. Raised above the highest mountains, you behold below you Nicomedia, Phrygia, and Pergamus. We surveyed with great pleasure the distant plains and lakes, which we had met with in the course of our journey. After we quitted our companions, we walked for two hours over agreeable mounts, at the bottom of which flowed gentle rills, murmuring along with their placid streams.

Having remained a few moments on the summit, I perceived scarcely any wind; and though the heavens were rather obscure, I found very little difference in the air. The observations I made with Reaumur's thermometer were as follows. At four o'clock in the morning it stood at 15° ; at ten, in the region of the plain, it fell 4° ; and on the summit, it fell one degree and a half more; being then at nine and a half. The snow never melts in this third region, especially on the northern side. We traversed long sheets of it where it never rose above our feet; but in the hollows it was exceedingly deep. On the south side it was almost entirely melted, so that scarcely the smallest vestige of it remained. We observed none upon the summit, but at the distance of half a furlong, we were obliged to cross a large band of it entirely frozen over.

The plants here are all very small; some even grow upon the summit where I saw the *nardus stricta*, which was just beginning to flower. I found also the true saffron flower. It is to be met with in great abundance. Streams, as I have already said, pour down here on all sides, and form torrents, which fall in cascades, and dividing afterwards into several branches, flow towards Bursa, and lose themselves in its immense plains. Excellent trout are caught in these streams, called in Turkish *ala-balik*,* which are

* Pöcock calls them *allah-balik*, fish of God; but he is wrong, for the other expression signifies spotted fish.

sent to the Grand Signior. People never fish for them until the snow begins to melt. The Turks come and fetch snow from this mountain with horses. It serves to cool their *sherbet*; but instead of putting it as we do into the water in which they plunge their bottles, they mix it with the liquor itself. Some of this snow is continually sent in summer to the *seraglio*, where it is sold both publicly and privately.

The perpendicular elevation of Mount Olympus, above the level of the sea, is an Italian mile and a half. One may ascend to its top very easily with a good horse in the space of five hours, and reckoning three miles an hour, the distance of the top from the city of Bursa may be about eighteen miles. Part of Mount Olympus belongs to the *Miri*, that is to say, to the Grand Signior; the other part was given to the *Multavali* by the Sultans. The *Multavali* are the procurators of the mosques, and this part of the mountain is called *Pachy*, the possessions of the table. In these mountains there are several villages inhabited by Turks, Greeks, and Armenians. The charcoal which they make is destined for the consumption of the city of Bursa; they furnish also the greater part of the wood used for building, and many fruit trees grow naturally here, which produce excellent fruits, and in great abundance. Their pastures above all are immense, and many of the inhabitants of Turcomania drive their flocks thither in summer. The herbs are for the most part medicinal, and abound with salts. The milk produced by the cattle which feed on them, is not very agreeable to the taste. The shepherds erect huts here to shelter themselves from the inclemencies of the weather. They are persuaded that a plant grows upon the mountain with which one may make gold. There are even many people foolish enough to search for it, but hitherto all their attempts have been fruitless. They are, however, not discouraged. This obstinacy may no doubt appear astonishing, but you know that to this country the philosopher's stone owes its origin.

On our return from Mount Olympus, the inhabitants of Bursa, and above all the Armenians, could not be persuaded that we had ascended to the summit; they said, that the cold and the snow must have been insurmountable obstacles. One of these reasons may plead some excuse for their laziness, and for their opinion; but the other exists only in three seasons of the year. Entertaining such an opinion, they have never had the curiosity to ascend farther than a mile above the city, which they consider

as equal to the heavens; for there is a Turkish proverb, which says, *ol budet gennet asfa zehni selch sai Bursa*. Bursa rises to the heavens.

This is all I have to say respecting my journey to Olympus. No one before me ever dared to visit its summit, and I can say that I am the first who ever gave an account of it.

In the twentieth letter, dated from Bursa, we have some particulars respecting the customs of the Armenians.

About eleven, says the Abbé, we went to visit an Armenian merchant, named *Jar-oghi*, or the son of the friend, who came for us himself, as it is customary that the heads of families should conduct to their houses those whom they invite to dinner. The Armenian merchants in this city are in number about two hundred; our friend was a manufacturer of muslin, and exceedingly rich. These people would live happy, and in peace, did not the intrigues of the missionary Franks, who are persuaded that they hoard up their money, occasion much trouble in their families. Our Armenian lives in a neat and agreeable house, though built in the taste of these people; the Armenians in general display very little luxury in their furniture, it consists only of sofas, upon which they eat, drink, sleep, and lounge, and which, in short, they employ for every domestic use. The simplicity of their furniture, as well as of their dress, and their temperance in eating, are the principal sources of their opulence; but however wealthy they may be, their avarice is so great, that they will quarrel with one another for the value of a farthing.

The dinner was plentiful, and in the European taste; but the dessert was served up after the manner of the country. A large pewter dish, containing a great number of small plates of confections, preserves, and honey, which had been kept, I imagine, since the marriage of our host's grandfather, was brought upon the table with much pomp; but we did not touch them, in order that he might reserve them for his children's children. I, however, tasted a kind of dried raisins, very excellent, the stone of which is long and slender. Their Turkish name is *Parmak-uzam*, raisins of the finger, because they are of the length of one's finger. They are a peculiar species.

It was very singular that in so numerous a family, there were only three persons who sat down to table with us; and even of these three one was a friend to the master of the house. We saw neither servants,

servants, children, nor women. It is customary among these people for a son never to eat with his father, nor a younger brother with an elder, if he be married. These Armenians were very much embarrassed when they attempted to use a knife and fork. They were above all exceedingly uneasy when they sat as we did; but as they thought it their duty from politeness to imitate us, they held the fork with one hand, and made use of the other to eat.

This embarrassment and uneasiness prevented them from enjoying their dinner; but it was not long before they had an opportunity of making up their loss, for as soon as some platefuls of raw herbs and salad were introduced, they immediately fell upon them as if they had fed upon nothing else, and throwing aside their forks, put them into their mouths with their fingers. They displayed less rusticity in their drinking than in their eating. The compliments which they pay, and the healths which they drink at each glass, and which one must return, not to affront them, shew at least their politeness and attention to their guests. In these ceremonies their chief pleasure seems to consist.

We drank nothing but a kind of white wine, which they make themselves. When new, they are not allowed to transport it into the city. The Armenians, like the Jews and the Greeks, are obliged, in order to have wine, to make it themselves, and to purchase a certain quantity of grapes. The Turks are so scrupulous on this head, that they have never yet allowed the use of taverns, from which they might derive very great emoluments; but they are not quite so nice when they wish to make merry themselves. We have often seen them come to the *kan* for that purpose, and what was still worse, those who sought this enjoyment, were for the most part

men. After dinner, we were asked to walk into the garden, where we drank coffee; and towards the evening we were treated with some cherries. In returning, I saw in the house of a botanist, the flowers of the *nymphaea lutea*. The Turks make a kind of water from them, which they call *nusar-fiu*. I saw also the *nymphaea alba*; both of these plants are found on the mountains.

DISCOURS SUR LES PROGRES DE LA LITTÉRATURE DANS LE NORD DE L'ALLEMAGNE, &c. A Discourse on the Progress of Literature in the northern Parts of Germany, read be-

fore the Academy of Sciences at Berlin, on the 26th of September, 1788. By the Abbe Denina. Berlin 8vo.

THE author of this work, who has in some measure become a German, tells us, that the houses of Saxony and Brunswick have spared no pains to meliorate the condition of their subjects, and that the provinces which at present compose the Prussian monarchy, are not only indebted for all the advantages which they now enjoy to the sovereigns by whom they have been governed in the present century, but that they have been almost entirely formed and civilized by the house of Hohenzollern, and that the progress of literature in the north of Europe is, in a great measure, the effect of the influence of that august family.

Knowledge and the letters, says he, have been diffused through Europe, proceeding from the south to the north, and from the east to the west. In Germany, however, they have not entirely followed the same route. They have spread widely from the southern provinces towards those of the north; but while Greece, Italy, Spain, and France received theirs from the east, Greece from Asia Minor, Italy from Greece, Spain and France from Italy, Germany began to be civilized towards the west. The circles of the Rhine, Suabia, Bavaria and Franconia, have been made acquainted with letters before Saxony, and the western part of Saxony before the other. By an example singular in the history of emigrations, revolutions, and conquests, the family of Hohenzollern passed from the south to the north, and voluntarily transported itself from a country fertile, opulent, and polished, to another which in these respects was much inferior.

The excellent education which John, surnamed Cicero, gave to his two sons, Joachim I. and Albert, was the immediate origin of the university of Franckfort, an epoch memorable in the literary history of the north. At the same time he was elected Archbishop of Magdeburgh, Administrator of Halberstadt, Elector of Mayence, and Cardinal. The reputation which he acquired gave him a decided weight in the affairs of Germany, and it is well known that Charles V. was indebted to him for his elevation to the imperial throne.* Being a Prince

* See Sleidan, George Sabinus, D'Auberty, and Struvius.

and Bishop, the sovereign of three states in the best circles of Germany, and a man of great consideration in Italy, where he was looked upon as the worthiest of all those whom Leo X. had united to the sacred college, Albert of Brandenburg had it very much in his power to assist the progress of science and of the arts. The towns of Magdeburgh and Halberstadt were already in a flourishing condition. The fertile soil of the former, and the commerce of the latter, had for a long time drawn thither merchants and monks, two very different classes of people, who equally contributed to the advancement of society. Aeneas Sylvius, the first who made modern Germany known to the Italians, and Italy to the Germans, spoke of Halberstadt as of a very polished city, almost at the same time that the celebrated Cardinal de Cusa rendered the like justice to Magdeburgh.

Mayence, however, the most ancient, or at least among the most ancient cities of Germany, must have been much superior. A country which had seen the western empire revive, which was the centre of the commerce carried on between Germany and France, the residence of a chapter which assembled under the same roof the first and the most enlightened nobility in Europe, and a clergy who had so much connection with Italy; in short, a country which had just invented the wonderful art of multiplying the copies of books, a proof that study was there much encouraged, must have presented abundance of literary riches to its Prince, who by that was able to communicate, if I may use the expression, the spirit of Saxony to Westphalia, and the erudition of Westphalia to Saxony.

It has not been properly ascertained in which of the two cities, Mayence or Magdeburgh, that Prince had collected a large quantity of curious books, as we are assured by the most authentic monuments, that Pope Leo X. sent to him for a complete copy of Livy, which was to be found, as he had been told, in his library. We are ignorant also of the answer given by Albert to his Holiness; but a strong proof of the advantages which this Prince had procured to the country he governed is, that the grandest literary production of the age of Charles V. I mean the Centuries which still go by the name of the *Magdeburgian*, came from the city of Magdeburgh. They appeared almost at the same time that John Carion presented to Joachim I. and to the Electoral Prince, his chro-

nicle, which had an astonishing success, even among nations much farther advanced in literature than Germany.

The Abbé Denina perceives scarcely any traces of literature in Prussia, anterior to Albert of Brandenburg, Grand Master of the Teutonic Order. The university of "Königsberg," he says, "owes its foundation to that Grand Master, first Duke of Prussia, who, to direct it, sent for the celebrated George Sabinus, a Brandenburgian."

Frederick William, who so well merited the surname of the *Great Elector*, had passed the principal part of his youth in Holland, where he had studied, and from which he had chosen his spouse.*

On entering into his states, says the author, he drew thither artists and men of letters from the country in which he had been in a manner educated. The battles which he gained from the Swedes, besides that they avenged the honor of Germany, which preceding defeats had tarnished, soon transferred into Brandenburg the arts and the sciences which the celebrated Christina had protected at Stockholm.

All Europe has considered Frederick William as the most zealous protector of letters and the arts at the time in which he lived. This great Prince had some design of erecting a Latin city at Brandenburg; but by the asylum which he opened to the Protestants driven from France, he accomplished the same end, which was to introduce a language of communication between the learned of all nations.

Frederick I. King of Prussia, less warlike, but perhaps more politic than his father, was no less friendly than he towards every thing that could contribute to the progress of letters, and of the arts. The university of Halle, the first institution of the academy of sciences, and of the academy of painting, the arsenal, his own, and his father's statue, are all permanent proofs of it.

The reign of Frederick William I. was, according to the Abbé Denina, less prejudicial to the sciences than is commonly believed.

* Louisa Henrietta, daughter of the Stadholder Henry Frederick, whose grandson William III. the Grand Elector afterwards supported.

In retarding a little, adds he, the progress of a destructive philosophy, and that frivolous spirit which began to spread in his time, he gave the national literature an opportunity of forming itself from better models than the books then published; for it was at the epoch of the Regency of the Duke of Orleans, that Frederick William shewed so much aversion to French modes, and to the French Muses. It was at that period that the most sensible part of the French complained of the futility which prevailed then in literature, and of the corruption of taste that was daily gaining ground. Besides, did this Prince, whom a celebrated author has so unjustly decried, prevent a Beaufoire, a Lenfant, and a Pelloutier, to compose works which still do honor to that city and academy? Did not Kuster and Gundling begin to unveil the ancient history of the country? and did not Achard and Sack at Berlin and Magdeburgh, and Quandt at Konigsberg, reform the Protestant churches, and introduce true eloquence into the pulpit? And lastly, was it not under this sovereign that the universities of Halle and of Franckfort had a Behmer, a Heinecius, a Thomafius, a Ludwig, a Hoffman, and a Stahl?

Frederick II. at length came forth from his Lyceum at Reinberg, to mount the throne of his ancestors. It would be useless to repeat at present, the praises with which these halls have so often resounded,

for the space of forty-six years, and the sorrow which we feel for losing him; but has the loss which the republic of letters has sustained, in a member and a protector so justly admired, retarded the progress of literature, and of the arts in Germany?

Did the time even permit me, I should not venture to enter into any detail of what the august monarch, whose birthday we now celebrate, has done in this respect, lest it might give occasion for comparisons, which would not, perhaps, be advantageous to that Prince whose memory we ought to revere on many accounts; but nothing prevents me from saying, that if the Great Frederick procured to his subjects, the means of improving themselves, by the productions of a lively people, whose taste appeared to him just, Frederick William has put them in a condition to subsist by their own strength. The one enabled them to learn and to imitate, but the other, entertaining a more favorable idea of the genius of his nation, exalts their sentiments, and renders them capable of even exhibiting models to foreign nations.

The author of this work has treated his subject in a very judicious and instructive manner, and as fully as circumstances would permit.

BRITISH PUBLICATIONS.

MEMOIRS OF THE REIGN OF BOSSA AHADÉE, KING OF DAHOMY, *an inland country of Guiney. To which are added, the Author's journey to Abomey, the capital; and a short account of the African slave trade.* By Robert Norris, with a map. Lowndes, 1789. 8vo.

THE Dahomians are a warlike people of Africa, living to the eastward of the Gold coast, between the rivers Volta and Benin, who have made themselves formidable by extending their dominions to the sea-coast, and annexing to them the kingdom of Whydah, a country of so much importance, on account of its trade, that the English, French and Portuguese maintain forts there for the protection of their respective shares of it. The Dahomians about a century

ago were a very inconsiderable nation, though formidable to their neighbors by their valor and military skill. They were then known by the name of Foys, and the town of Dawhee, lying between Calmina and Abomey, was the capital of their small territories.

In the beginning of the last century, Tacoodonou, chief of the Foy nation, forgetting the sacred laws of hospitality, basely murdered a sovereign Prince in his neighborhood, who had paid him a friendly visit to honor one of his festivals. He then attacked and took Calmina, the capital of the unhappy victim of his ambitious views, and, strengthened by this acquisition, he ventured to carry his arms against Da, King of Abomey, whom he besieged in his capital, which soon after surrendered. In consequence of a vow which he had made during

during the siege, he put Da to death, by ripping open his belly, and placed his body under the foundation of a palace that he built in Abomey, as a memorial of his victory. This palace he called Dahomy, from Da, whom he had destroyed, and *Ho-my*, the belly, that is to say, a house built on Da's belly.

After this conquest, Tacoodonou took up his residence at Abomey, assuming the title of King of Dahomy, and on this account the Foys, his subjects, were called Dahomans. In the country, the old name of Foys prevails, but they are generally known to Europeans by the former appellation. Thus Tacoodonou established the Dahoman empire, which about a century afterwards his descendant, Guadja Trudo, still farther extended, by subduing various kingdoms, and adding Whydah to his dominions in the year 1727, the conquest of which is particularly related by Snelgrave, Atkins and others.

The history of a savage prince can exhibit little else than continued scenes of bloodshed and murder. Where the happy light of science has never dawned, where the arts are in a state of rudeness, and where the influence of civilization has not been felt, this is all indeed that can be expected. The reader, therefore, will not be surprised to find, that Bossa Ahadee should begin his reign with a barbarous action. As soon as his father had breathed his last, his death was concealed, as is customary upon such occasions, until the prime ministers, who are styled *Tamezan* and *Maybou*, had consulted together and settled which of his sons should succeed him; for though the first born is looked upon as the heir, yet if it appears to these ministers that, on account of any defect, either of body or mind, he is unworthy of that exalted station, they have the power of rejecting him, and of choosing any one else of his children, whom they may think to be best qualified for reigning. Upon this occasion they rejected the eldest son, whose name was Zingah, and unanimously fixed

upon Ahadee. The former, finding his hopes disappointed, privately founded the disposition of his friends, resolved, if he should meet with support, to attempt to gain that inheritance which he considered as his birth right. Having received great encouragement from several of those on whom he had conferred favors in his father's lifetime, and being assured that numbers were ready to espouse his cause, he began to concert measures to surprise his brother, and to seize the government, either by stratagem or force. Ahadee, however, got intelligence of his design; Zingah and the principal conspirators were seized, just as their plan was ripe for execution, and Zingah, being sewed up in a hammock at Abomey, was carried in that situation to Whydah, where he was put into a canoe, conveyed about two leagues out to sea, and there thrown overboard and drowned. As the law of the country does not allow the sacred blood of the royal family to be shed, this punishment is appointed for all their offences. Such was the end of Zingah, and all his adherents were put to death.

The King having now got rid of his competitor, and being secured in the peaceable possession of his dominions, threw off the mask, and gave unbounded indulgence to his inclinations, which were of the most pernicious kind. One of the first acts of his reign was, that every man of the name of Bossa should be put to death; and this cruel order was punctually executed throughout all his dominions, old and young, without distinction, being sacrificed to gratify the vanity of this abominable tyrant, who thought it an insult to majesty, that a subject should bear the same name as his sovereign.

After repeated acts of cruelty and oppression, *Maybou* was so far roused, that in 1735, he took up arms against the sovereign, with a design of freeing his country from the tyranny under which it groaned; but he was defeated, and killed in an engagement with the royal troops, and all the prison-

prisoners taken upon this occasion were put to death. The few who escaped, in order to avoid the tortures which they knew were prepared for them, fled into the neighbouring states, and ended their days in exile.

After this Ahadee was engaged in war with a formidable people, called the Eyoos, who are the scourge and terror of all their neighbours. To give an idea of the strength of an Eyoo army, the Dahomans assert that when they go to war the General spreads the hide of a buffalo before the door of his tent, and pitches a spear in the ground on each side of it, between which the soldiers march until the multitude have worn a hole through it. As soon as this happens, he presumes that his forces are numerous enough to take the field. These people invaded Dahamoy in 1738 with an irresistible army, and laid the country waste to the gates of Abomey. After this they continued for several years to harrafs the country with an annual visit; but in the year 1747 they listened to terms of accommodation, and agreed to abstain from hostilities for the future, in consideration of a tribute, which is paid them every year, at Calmina, in the month of November.

Whilst the Dahomans were distressed by the Eyoos, they were engaged in two other bloody wars with the Mahees, and the old Whydahs, each of which continued above thirty years. The war with the former commenced in 1737, and was carried on with all that savage fury which is customary among barbarous nations; the prisoners of distinction on both sides were put to death indiscriminately, and the other captives were confined to slavery. Many battles were fought with various success, as neither party were willing to relinquish their pretensions; but in 1772, a peace was concluded, which still continues. In the same year a peace was also concluded between the Popoos, the Whydahs, and the Dahomans, under the mediation of Lionel Abson, Esq. Governor of Willi-

am's Fort, to the mutual advantage of both sides. Ahadee, worn out with years and infirmities, engaged in nothing worth notice after this period, and died on the 17th of May, 1774. Such are the outlines of this history.

The account which the author has added of his journey to the court of Bossa Ahadee, in the year 1772, contains some curious particulars, a few of which we shall extract. Jackals, by the natives called *twetwees*, are very common in this country, and even go prowling through the towns in the night time, disturbing people with their execrable cries.

They are fierce, voracious animals, about the size of a large mastiff dog, but much stronger in all their parts, particularly the jaws, teeth and legs, which are remarkably strong: their feet are very large, and armed with formidable claws. They quit their retreats in the woods soon after dark, and range in troops through the towns and plantations, in quest of food: any domestic animal that is not secured in a house, or at least within high walls, is sure to become their prey; but scarcely any thing comes amiss to them: when they cannot get better fare, they eat any kind of trash. I have frequently seen the stomachs of those that have been killed, full of pieces of broken calabashes that had once contained oil in them; and of old dry cow-hides, that had been used for covering the rolls of Portuguese tobacco. They are the greatest devourers of the carcases of those who are executed as criminals, or sacrificed at the public festivals.

They readily discover dead bodies that are interred, and drag them out of their graves: this is a joint operation of several; and when they have got their prey before them, they dance and caper round it with great exultation for some time, before they devour it. When any of them singly falls in with a booty, he changes the horrid roaring which he used in the pursuit, to another vile note, which is to summon his companions to come, and partake with him; and it is by the same note they announce the discovery of a human grave, and collect a party to explore its contents. I never knew an instance where they attacked a cow, that they did not seize the udder first; and in *Whydah*, where they are very numerous, I have often known cows rescued from them, with the loss of that part, by the speedy exertions of the people running immediately to the place where the piteous be-

lowings

lowings of the poor animal directed them. I am surprized, that Mons. Buffon should omit to mention, that though this animal has a strong resemblance in figure to the wolf, and canine species, it differs from them in a striking feature, by having only two teats, which are placed one on each side of the breast, like a monkey*.

Mr. Buffon says, that the *Agouti*, or Bush-cat, is peculiar to the new world, and not to be found any where but in America. Mr. Norris, however, tells us, that they abound in this part of Africa, where they are esteemed a great dainty.

The *Bush-cat*, (by which name it is distinguished among the British traders at this coast) approaches nearly in the length of its body, to that of a full grown hare, and is rather thicker. The body, when divested of its skin, appears incased with fat, like a hog. The tail is short, and not bushy. I do not remember the number of its claws; but the feet are small, and do not seem formed for burrowing in the earth. The hinder legs are longer than the fore ones, and the ears are rounded and short. The lads who seized and brought them to me for sale, related that the practice was to wait for these animals in their haunts, morning and evening. That they were generally seen in companies (or probably families) of fifteen, or twenty, following one another in the same path. The head-most were suffered to pass on unmolested, and then an assault was made upon the rear of the party with sticks; and by this manœuvre, two or three were usually taken prisoners. On my asking the reason, why they did not make their first attack upon the leaders, they replied, that in such case, the assailants would be exposed to the fury of all that followed; and that their bite was extremely severe: this, I was induced to believe, as they are furnished with two very formidable incisory teeth in the upper jaw. But by beginning with the rear, there was little danger, because, those which were already passed, continued to march on, without disturbing themselves about the fate of their companions. The muzzle of the *Bush-cat* (except that the upper lip is divided like that of a hare) is not very unlike that of a rat; the upper jaw projecting considerably beyond the lower.

Instead of soft hair, they are covered with harsh, coarse, stiff bristles, which adhere so slightly to the skin, as to be separated by a slight touch. This creature is endued with a power of erecting its bristles, which are of a brownish colour, clouded with dark spots. It is on the authority of the Brazilian Portuguese captains who trade at Whydah, that I suppose this animal to be the *Agouti*; for these persons assured me, that it is not at all different from those which are so common in Brazil; and the French captains, who had been at Cayenne, concurred in the same opinion. The African *Agouti*, is very fat, and its flesh tastes greasy, and strong, unless it has been cured by smoke; which is a preparation that makes it exceedingly palatable.

The author gives the following account of his interview with the King of Dahomy.

On my return, I received a message from the king, who desired to see me next morning in Dahomy house. I prepared, accordingly, for my visit, by unpacking a very handsome sedan chair, and a chamber organ, which I had previously sent up from Whydah. These I sent early in the morning by my porters to the palace, and followed them, at ten o'clock, February 5, accompanied by my linguist. I was received at the door by *Mayhou*; on each side of it was a human head, recently cut off, lying on a flat stone, with the face down, and the bloody end of the neck towards the entrance. In the guard house were about forty women, armed with a musket and cutlase each; and twenty eunuchs, with bright iron rods in their hands; one of whom slipped away, to announce my arrival; and *Mayhou*, walking cautiously forward, conducted me through the first court to a door, near which were two more heads; where he prostrated himself, and kissed the ground; on which it was opened by a female, and we entered a second court, two sides of which were formed by long shady piazzas: in this we were met by *Tamegah* and *Eubigah*, who, with *Mayhou*, frequently knelt down, and kissed the ground, pronouncing aloud some of the king's titles, as we walked across this court, in which were ranged six human heads. From this we passed through a third door into the court, where the king was seated, on a handsome chair of crimson velvet, ornamented with gold fringe, placed on a car-

* *Mirifica pudendorum conformatio extat. A scemina, mas haud facile dignosci potest. Latitant penis ac testes intus, subter cutem hypogastricam. Per foramen effluit urina, penisque in coitu detruditur. Tantam autem rima labii muliebribus profert similitudinem, ut, specie prima, valde ambiguum sexus estimetur, et quasi Hermaphroditicum.*

pet, in a spacious cool piazza, which occupied one side of the court. He was smoking tobacco, and had on a gold laced hat, with a plume of ostrich feathers; he wore a rich crimson damask robe, wrapped loosely round him; yellow slippers, and no stockings: several women were employed fanning him, and others with whisks, to chase away the flies: one woman, on her knees before him, held a gold cup, for him to spit in.

When the door, which led into this court was opened, *Tamegah* and his two companions immediately fell down, rubbed their foreheads in the dust, kissed the ground repeatedly, and approached the king crawling on their hands and knees, prostrating themselves frequently, and throwing the dust plentifully with both hands upon their heads: had it been mud from preceding rain, the same ceremony would have been performed.

Having bowed to the king, I was directed to a chair a few yards from him; and having drank his health in a small glass of brandy, and he mine, he inquired after the health of his brother, *King George of England*; and asked some questions respecting my voyage. We conversed through the medium of my servant, who acted as interpreter, and *Mayhow*, who first kissed the ground, before he presumed to repeat the king's words to my servant: a custom always observed in every part of the country, as well as in the royal presence, when a person has occasion to repeat the king's words, or deliver any message or order of his. After some conversation, he desired me to let him hear the organ, and appeared much pleased with the tunes. I then explained the use of the sedan chair, which I represented as much more convenient than hammocks, which he generally used. Half a dozen of his hammock men were then introduced, crawling on their hands and knees; and by his desire, I went into the sedan, and directing them what to do, was carried by them all in turns, until they appeared to be pretty expert at their business: he then went into it himself, and was carried repeatedly round the court, amidst the shouts and acclamations of his ministers, his women, and his hammock men. It was a smart showy thing, covered with red morocco leather, and lined with white silk. He was astonishingly delighted with it, and diverted himself with opening and drawing the curtains, which he deemed a most ingenious contrivance; at last, in the exultation of his soul, some of the eunuchs were called in to supply the place of the hammock men, and the door leading from the piazza to his private apartments being opened, he was carried by them to display his finery among his women; and I had permission to depart: his nobles retiring in the same abject manner which they observed in approaching him.

In the evening, I purchased thirty-two slaves, which finished the business of the day.

To this Work is annexed also an Appendix, containing a short account of the Slave Trade.

TRAVELS THROUGH SICILY AND MALTA. Translated from the French of Mr. De Non, Gentleman in ordinary to the King of France, and Member of the Royal Academy of Painting and Sculpture. Robinsons. 1789. 8vo.

AS want of room will not allow us to make large Extracts from this Work, which may form a very good supplement to what the ingenious Mr. Brydone has written upon the same subject, we shall content ourselves with the following observations respecting that celebrated cavern or grotto, called the *Ear of Dionysius*.

It appears narrow, gloomy, and awful. It is the cave of the Sibyl. No echo can be more sensible, but it is rather the sonorousness of an instrument than an echo. It resounds and re-echoes, but repeats only at the entrance. It is in short the most spacious and most beautiful sonorous cavern perhaps existing. This latomia, considered with all its adjuncts in its present state, is a sublime and enchanting place; but when we reflect on the labour and misery these excavations must have cost the unhappy men who formed them, the dreadful torments of which they were at once the instrument, and the place of infliction, the charm vanishes: we behold nothing but the prison, the chains, the tortures, and the tyrant; we wish to fly, and at the entrance shudder with the apprehension of meeting *Dionysius*.

We lighted a torch to examine the profundity of this dungeon, said to be the invention of that tyrant. Its form is that of a bell; that is to say, the grotto gradually becomes narrower from the base up to two thirds of its height, when it preserves the same dimension in rising, and forms at length a small elliptical arch, the key of which is exactly in the shape of the letter S, and continues insensibly inclining to the end of the grotto, which terminates in a square. In the middle of the right side is a square chamber, hollowed also out of the rock, which appeared

ed to us a late work. An elevation of six or seven feet of earth, accumulated by time, deprives this cavity of a great deal of its original void, spacious as it still is, and in part deadens the echo, though that is still very considerable. The sides, which were hewn very even, are smoothed by a coat of stalactites deposited by the damp, and nothing is to be distinguished in the walls but some holes, for the purpose of raising scaffolds, and rings cut in the stone; of the use of which it is very difficult either to obtain or give a just idea. If they were formed to secure prisoners, some of them must have been fastened at the height of fifteen feet; which may lead us to imagine that this prison was excavated at different periods, and that the height of these rings was varied by the sinking of the ground. It is certain, however, that prisoners never were fastened to these notches except with straps or cords, this sort of ring being unable to sustain the friction and pressure of other iron rings. It is extremely doubtful too, whether they ever were applied to any such purpose; and it appears to me still more doubtful whether this place ever was a prison formed by Dionysius to discover the secrets of his prisoners. On an inspection of the whole cavern, I can discover no reasons favourable to this opinion, unless we are determined blindly to persist in an ancient error, out of respect for its antiquity; an antiquity which is no more than a popular tradition, wholly unsupported by any historical authority. History indeed informs us, that this tyrant had prisons near his palace, where those state prisoners were put to the torture, with whose projects it was his interest to be acquainted; but the latomix were not contiguous to his palace. These quarries are not named when mention is made of that particular prison. The latomix were public prisons, in which the slaves and criminals were made to work, and not a place intended to extort the secrets of prisoners; besides that, the latomix were known long before the time of Dionysius, since the Athenians were confined in them after their defeat. Had this cavern been fabricated for the use in question, it would not have been formed of this depth, for ages have been necessary to its excavation; Tyrants must have speedier means to still their fears, and gratify their passions. Nor could this contrivance have succeeded more than once; the moment the use of it was known, the tyrant's intention was defeated. And then what possibility of hearing, of distinguishing, and following the thread of conversation in a place, where, when three persons speak, the sounds are confounded with each

other, and produce only an unintelligible and inarticulate noise.

History tells us likewise, that this prison was only for the multitude, like the galleys with us, and never for great criminals, or prisoners of distinction; and that when Dionysius sent thither Philoxenus, the Dithyrambic poet, who had said the Tyrant's verses were bad, it was to punish by humbling, and not tormenting him; since, a few days after, this poet, being at table with the sovereign, who was again reading some poetry, exclaimed, "*Take me back to the quarries.*" These then were quarries, which had been originally worked by freemen, and afterwards converted into prisons. The government eventually availed itself of their spacious enclosure to confine that multitude of prisoners of war who were made slaves; here they laboured for the public edifices, remained here their whole lives, married, and had children born to slavery.

These caverns being thus peopled, it became necessary to provide for their subsistence, and most urgent wants of their inhabitants: hence the aqueducts we still find here, those masses of incrusted bricks, around the place, for the purpose of distributing the water. A shelter must likewise be furnished them as a protection from the excessive heat of the sun, and the rains of winter. With this view they were employed to continue the same works, and excavate grottos; to secure the solidity of which, and guard against decay, they adopted this form, which is proved to be the best; the lapse of so many ages having produced no change in it, nor any sort of decay from the filtration of the water. But to return to those who have no eyes but to see ears, we may observe to them, that there is another ear begun at the other end of the latomia, in the grotto where they make the nitre. The same form of roof and grotto is to be found likewise in the latomia of Achradina, in what is called the Forest of the Capuchins. So that there is no want of ears; and Dionysius must either have often copied his own works, or was not the inventor of this contrivance. 'Tis true there is in the famous one, a small chamber in an external opening of the roof, where the listener is said to have taken his stand.

In this work the reader will find some curious particulars respecting Sicily, a country interesting on many accounts, and which makes so conspicuous a figure in ancient history.

* Dionysius pardoned him this folly, and was the first to laugh at it. We may conclude, therefore, that if Dionysius wrote bad verses, he had no objection to a good joke, when well timed. We know some great princes who have a little more rancour.

POETRY.

P O E T R Y.

DESCRIPTION OF AN OCTOBER
EVENING IN LONDON.

A SKETCH FROM NATURE.

THE fun is sunk below the western sky,
And twinkling lamps the want of
light supply;
Returning milk-maids fwing their empty
pails,
Exactly balanc'd, like a pair of scales;
And dirty *trulls* in alleys take their stand,
While smarter girls perambulate the *Strand*.
Oft', when they dare to tread forbidden
ground,
And bold encroach upon another's *round*,
The tongue's artillery off with force is
play'd,
And all the art of *Billinggate* display'd;
Low, vulgar language grates the ears
around,
And neighboring walls with dismal oaths
resound;
The gathering mob malignant laugh, or
sneer,
While hackney coachmen from their boxes
jeer;
Join their hoarse voices to each female
tongue,
And a loud peal of ribaldry is rung.

Beware, ye thoughtless! of their bor-
row'd charms,
And fly, O! fly from their polluted arms;
Avoid, I pray, avoid each treach'rous
snare,
The painted cheek, and eke the *bosom bare*;
The wanton trip, the side-long leer, and
smile,
That oft', too oft, unwary hearts beguile.

Now bankers clerks, freed from the toil
of day,
And smartly dress'd, set out to see the play;
To *Covent Garden* or to *Drury* hie,
To laugh with *Edwin*, or with *Siddons* cry:
Around the doors the crowd begin to press,
And tender females breathe in great distress;
The well-fed tradesman lugs his spouse
along,
And struggles hard to drag her through the
throng,
While ma'am cries out, in a right peevish
mood,
"Lord! what a mob!—the men how
"monstrous rude!
"They push one so—nor mind a female's
"cries,
"Nor pay respect to people's age or size;
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"I beg, behind, you would not push so
"hard,
"The doors, my friend, are not as yet
"unbarr'd."

The doors now open'd, in they head-
long push,
And in confusion all together rush:
The *beau's* fine curls, that many hours em-
ploy'd,
Are in the scuffle, dire mishap! destroy'd;
The pins all lost, his locks quite tatter'd
hing,
And oaths and shrieks through all the pas-
sage ring;
Some, squeeze'd so hard, are from the pave-
ment borne,
Cloaks, petticoats, and gowns, are sadly
torn;
Whilst some with squeezing are entirely
spent,
And some their watches and their cash la-
ment.

The *brawny* chairman now picks up a
fare,
And o'er the pavement trails in haste his
chair,
Calls for his partner *Dennis*—*Dennis*,—
here—
The *gemman* waits—why don't you quick
appear?
By *Jasus*, *honey*, we shall lose a fare!—
Why don't you, *Dennis*, take some better
care?

See oyster *Nan*, to shew her different
wares,
Her paper lantern and a light prepares;
Her nuts and pippins are to view display'd,
And cabbages on cabbages are laid;
Nice ruddy carrots too in bunches hing,
And onions dangle from a slender string;
Here cockles *rare*, and muscles *lilly white*,
Are plac'd with art to catch the buyer's
fight;
Potatoes too, and turnips grace the stall,
Quite *round* and *sound*, and ready at a
call.

To other scenes, my Muse, now let us
turn,
Where blazing lights in yonder window
burn;
While prints and maps in proper order lie,
And *Magazines* attract the roving eye.
Quite different wares are seen almost next
door,
Thin gauzes, laces, caps, and ribands
store:

P p

Here

Here passing females often feast the eye,
And vainly long for what they cannot buy;
To some companion shew their gaudy
choice,
And "charming thing!" repeats each fe-
male voice.

Now ballad fingers raise their voice
aloud,
And sing some ditty to the vulgar crowd;
Maid, children, footmen, in promiscu-
ous throng,
All gaping stand, and listen to the song,
While busy thieves to get a booty strive,
And dexterously into the pocket dive.

The hast'ning postman goes his evening
round,*
And plies the knocker with loud thund'ring
found;
To some conveys the cause of grief and
tears,
And others frees from ill foreboding fears;
Makes lovers hearts with expectation beat,
And Betty mount the stairs with nimble feet,
From country sweetheart to receive some
lines,
That tell, for her he night and morning
pines.

Now link boys wait to chace away the
night,
And loudly bawl out—*Light, your Honor,
light?*
O'er dirty stones direct the beau to steer,
That splashing mud his stockings mayn't
besmear.

The hackney scribbler from his garret
creeps
To some low beer-house, where his haunt
he keeps,
To smoke his pipe, and, if he can, regale
On cheese, or oysters, and a pot of ale.

Now females o'er their tea begin to tattle,
And gilded coaches to each playhouse
rattle,
While learned templars throng into the
pit,
To criticise, and shew theatric wit.

LUCIAN.

AN ADDRESS OF THANKS,

SPOKEN BY MR. J-F--N, AT THE
THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.

WRITTEN BY A GENTLEMAN IN THAT
NEIGHBOURHOOD.

ADDRESS† of Thanks seems now to be
the rage
Among my bulkin'd friends who tread this
stage:

* These verses were written before the late regulations in the post-office respecting
the delivering out of letters.

† A number of Addresses had been spoken by different actors for their benefits.

To 've

As that's the case, I trust that I may claim
Indulgence from the House to sport my
name

In lines poetic—for the critic knows
'Twould damn the piece to write in vulgar
prose:

Besides, 'tis now the *tippey*!—quite the *go*!
To set the poet, and ones works to shew
Upon these boards, in Epilogue sublime,
Or some neat trifle suited to the time;
And, Oh, how charming! should it take,
to hear
The found of plaudits thund'ring on the
ear!

Or, like *Demosth'nes*, when we walk about,
By some *old woman* to be pointed out,
Aloud exclaiming, while she strains her
throat,

"There goes the man, who for the stage
"has wrote."

Since, then, I've caught this vile poetic
itch,
Which rages thro' the town 'mong poor
and rich,

In pity, let my new-born muse to-night,
Wear one poor sprig of laurel in your sight,
Nor nip the bud which yet is barely green,
From the *old flock*, where scarce a leaf is
seen.

Methinks—the time draws near, when
ev'ry fire,

Burning with flame of true poetic fire,
Shall teach his children, when they scarce
can mutter,

To *lisp* in numbers for their bread and but-
ter;

Their mother anxious praying, as she
sighs,

Her son a Dryden or a Pope may rise.
The *play-house* then well stor'd with ancient
lore,

And comic wit, in *PROSE*, will please no
more!

The *senate* too, disputing on each matter,
In loud *iambics* will be heard to chatter;
The *financier*, to calculate the gains,
In *verse* will puzzle his prolific brains:
The *bar*, the *pulpit*, all, in jingling rhyme,
Will shew the reigning madness of the
time.

Since, then, the picture of some future day
I've faintly color'd in the poet's way,
No more I'll let my wandering fancy roam,
But draw a *living portrait* nearer home.

To've trod the stage for thirty years,
and more,

In all its gilded trappings, — yet be
poor!

To've strut in parts, of no small note or
figure,

And yet to've swell'd in size scarce one
inch bigger!

To've been a manager!—a petty king!—
Still to be poor, is sure a cursed thing!
Aye, there's the rub!—Well, faith, 'twill
be all one,

When once an hundred years are past and
gone:

But in your favor if I still succeed,
Tho' poor in pocket, I'll be rich indeed!
A mine of treasure would but bring me
wealth,

Nor could it purchase happiness or health;
While sacred Friendship, with her richer
store,

Gives me contentment, and I ask no more.
Let gratitude, then, to my friends to night,
Pay this small tribute!—this, my little mite
Of thanks sincere—unbounded let them
flow,

They're all I have to give, or can bestow,
Save these poor efforts!—Nature's mimic
pow'rs,

Which I'll exert, yet to my latest hours,
For you—and you—and you, whose plau-
dits can

My cares all banish, and revive the man!

G. D.

*The following ODE TO SENSIBILITY, ex-
hibits all the pathos, sense, and sentiment
of modern Poetry. The whole secret of
this new art, consists in describing every
thing but your subject; and in this respect,
the following resembles many compositions
of the present day.*

ODE TO SENSIBILITY.

WHO has not heard, what few have seen,
The yellow robes of sprightly green,
Which o'er my Laura's shoulders flow:
Lovely Laura, is't not so?

Sweet the rose when wet with dew,
Lovely Rosalind, adieu!
From cloud to cloud, from east to west,
'Tis pun and pathos, fun and jest.

Swallows warble through the shade,
Poor Philander! is he dead?
See how winter strips the grove,
Sighs of sympathy and love.

Celestial extasies and moans,
Sighs and sumpers, grins and groans;
Girls of grace, and Fleet-street bonnets,
Celia's waist, and blooming sonnets.

Blue-ey'd belles, and black-ey'd beaux,
Ohs! and ahs! and ahs! and ohs!
Friendship's name, and Cupid's dart,
Charm and rend my feeling heart.

Sound the trumpet, beat the drum,
Tweedle-dee and tweedle-dum;
Gird your armour cap-a-pee,
Tweedle-dum and tweedle-dee.

ACADEMICUS.

ON THE EARTH BEING TAKEN OUT
OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH-YARD
OF N——, FOR THE PURPOSE OF
MAKING A GARDEN.

'T'WAS at the solemn midnight hour,
That hour when ghosts return,
O'er the dark grave the joys of life
For ever lost to mourn.

In yon cathedral church-yard, where
Those hardy sons of toil
Bear, with unhallow'd hands, away
The consecrated soil.

Pale sprites with horror view'd the deep
Where late their bodies lay,
Where now, alas! they wish to sleep,
Fast by their kindred clay.

And thus a voice, in plaintive tone,
The solemn silence broke:
The D—— heard not, or e'en the D——
Had trembled whilst it spoke.

"Was it for this, with funeral drefs
"Each lifeless corpse was grac'd?
"Was it for this, with pious care
"Each in his grave was plac'd?

"Was it for this, the white rob'd priest
"The farewell blessing shed?
"And promis'd here unbroken rest,
"Within earth's hallow'd bed?

"Was it, to be by ruthless hands
"Again dragg'd forth to day;
"To have the bones, yet unconsum'd,
"Bestrew the public way?

"Be it his fate who tears them hence,
"With unrelenting mind,
"Ne'er in the silent womb of earth
"A peaceful grave to find!

"Let no proud marble tell his name
"In monumental praise,
"Boasting that num'rous deeds of worth
"Adorn'd his happy days.

"But on some dunghill be he thrown,
"And near it be there read,
"Chalk'd on some wall—"See his reward
"Who dar'd disturb the dead!"

SONNET TO THE VIOLET.

BY MISS S. PEARSON.*

SWEET humble flow'rs, that on the path-
less hill
Unfolds thy soft leaves to the orient ray,
Or bendest o'er some unfrequented rill,
That bathes thy green stem as it winds away.

* Author of a Collection of Poems, now publishing by subscription, some of which
have appeared in the Literary Magazine, with the signature of Angelina.

There no proud foot shall damp thy velvet bloom,
Or rudely rob thee of thy pensive grace;
There thou may'st oft the evening gale perfume,
Till nature calls thee to thy primal place.

When, all thy powers exhausted, 'mongst the reeds
Thou droop'st in solitude thy faded head,
And with thy fragrant sisters of the meads
Find'st a sweet shelter, and a quiet bed,
May I with lovely grace sustain life's toil-some scene,
And die like thee, fair flow'r, amid some vale serene.

S O N N E T.

WRITTEN ON A BLANK LEAF OF
SHAKESPEARE.

BY THE SAME.

SHAKESPEARE, immortal poet! who like thee
Shall pierce the human mind; its springs controul,
To rapture or to anguish whirl the soul,
Bid horror chain, or mirth the senses free:
Oh! who like thee to Fancy's realms shall soar,
Beyond creation's bounds his throne to rear,
Launch on the wilds of space, the lucid sphere,
And o'er th' ideal world sweet music pour?
None who e'er wandering in Castalia's shades,
With classic warblings woo'd the lovely maids.
By nature blest'd, scorning art's cold commands—
Thy radiance, Shakespeare, still superior glows,
As the bright opal mocks the artists hands,
And from its native rock light's richest tincture throws.

A Countryman having desired a Schoolmaster to write a short DESCRIPTION of a HOUSE, which he was commissioned to LET, received the following VERSES.

A HOUSE to let—'tis quite complete,
Fresh painted, paper'd, new and neat,
Eight handsome rooms upon a floor—
What mortal man can wish for more?
A hall, and porch, and God knows what,
And twenty things that I've forgot;
The kitchens too for neat and clean,
They're fine enough to lodge the Queen.

The parlours—blest my soul, the Muse
So hard a task may well refuse:
In vain upon the Nine I call,
To sing the glories of the hall;
So let us leave the lower story,
The upper rooms to set before ye:
Ascending, you go round and round,
You think you are on Fairy ground;
Chambers for beds, and rooms for dining;
But pray observe the best room's lining,
A French green paper, gilt all over,
'Twas of a smuggler bought, at Dover.
Behold the cieling painted round,
It cost the owner sixty pound.
A story higher let's ascend,
Pray see the stairs, how neat they bend:
Here are bedchambers in great plenty;
The man that built this house, what meant he,
To make his roof so monstrous high?
The birds can't reach it as they fly.
Suppose we now the gardens see;
The Muse must take a leap with me;
Four stories only to the ground—
Thank God,—we've done it,—safe and found.

Here Flora with Pomona reigns,
The trees all grow without much pains.
Behold the fruit, behold the flow'rs,
See, at the end, two ruin'd tow'rs,
Sacred to Jupiter or Juno,
For man and wife are all one you know:
See there beyond yon verdant bed,
Venus and Cupid made of lead;
With grottoes, fountains, hermits cells,
Old statues, vases, flow'ry dells—*

V E R S E S,

IMITATED,

FROM AN ASIATIC COLLECTION.

WHILE sad suspense and chill delay
Bereave my wounded soul of rest,
New hopes, new fears, from day to day,
By turns assail my lab'ring breast.

My heart, while ardent love consumes,
Throbs with each agonizing thought;
So flutters, with entangled plumes,
A lark in wily meshes caught.

There she, with unavailing strain,
Pours thro' the night her warbled grief;
The gloom retires—but not her pain—
The dawn appears, but no relief.

Two nestlings wait the parent bird,
Their thrilling anguish to appease;
She comes—ah, no! the sound they heard
Was but a whisper of the breeze

* About four verses are torn off at the end,

MONTHLY REGISTER.

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

WEDNESDAY, May 27.

MR. *Burke* informed the House, that some late decisions of the Lords having considerably narrowed the evidence in support of the charges against Warren Hastings, he was instructed by the Committee of Managers, to move for a Committee to inspect the Lords journals, from the commencement of the trial to the present day.

The motion was agreed to; and the Committee appointed to conduct the prosecution instructed to inspect the journals:

In a Committee of supply, Mr. *Steele*, in the absence of the Secretary at War, moved the Army Extraordinaries, amounting to 398,000*l*.

Mr. *Huffey* said he could not vote away so large a sum without some observation. The extraordinary for the West Indies alone was 95,000*l*. It had been asserted, that in the year 1790, the public expence would be reduced to the sum stated by the Committee of Finance, but instead of that it seemed to go on encreasing. Last year it had been about 3,900,000*l*. and this year it was nearly 4,900,000*l*. so that this year the expence was a million more; and if the state of the Sinking Fund, and the deficiencies were compared, it would appear that we began this year a million worse than last year.

Mr. *Steele* said, the Honorable Gentleman's observations applied rather to the Budget than to the Army Extraordinaries. The extraordinary for the West Indies was swelled by services that had been performed, which would not occur again; and there were 85,000*l*. incurred by the regiment sent out to India, for which Government would be reimbursed by the Company. The Army Extraordinaries in general were reduced, and by the year 1791, he had no doubt, would be brought to the sum stated in the report of the Committee of Finance.

The resolution was agreed to; and then Mr. *Steele* proceeded to move various sums for the service of the current year, which were severally agreed to, and the report ordered to be received to morrow.

The order of the day being read for going into a Committee of the whole House, to consider further the Petitions respecting the Slave Trade,

Mr. *Marshall* rose, and regretting the

thinness of the House, submitted to those of the highest authority in it, whether it was consistent with the importance of the question to proceed on the business with so scanty an attendance.

Mr. *Fox* said, that if Mr. *Marshall's* objections were well founded, they would equally hold against every examination of witnesses at the bar. The attendance, he believed, was not fuller in the case of the Irish Propositions, or in the proceedings on the Impeachment of Mr. Hastings; for this reason, probably, that Gentleman relied on the evidence being printed.

Mr. *Pitt* supported Mr. *Fox*, and said it was equally the duty of those who were adverse to the bill to attend, as well as of those who were friendly to it.

Lord *Maitland* hoped that attendance would be better in future; and observed, that there was a wide difference between the mere reading of evidence, and hearing it delivered at the bar.

Sir *John Sinclair* said, he wished to have the Commissioners of the Customs examined at the bar, as they had given the House much information on the subject of the Irish propositions.

Mr. *Pitt* said, the Commissioners of the Customs were, no doubt, very competent to give the House information on the amount of the revenue derived from the African Trade, and from the West India islands, but in a question of policy it would be absurd to call upon them for their testimony.

Mr. *Drake* spoke a few words, when the question being put, the Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved into a Committee of the whole House, Sir Wm. Dolben, Chairman.

Mr. *Barnes*, the late Governor of Senegal, was then called in, and underwent a long examination, after which the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THURSDAY, May 28.

AFTER returning from Westminster-hall, their Lordships sent a message to the Commons, that they would proceed further on the trial of Warren Hastings on Wednesday the 10th of June.

Read several private bills, and adjourned to Monday se'nnight.

HOUSE



HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THURSDAY, May 28.

THE bill to explain and amend the act of the 6th of George III. for encouraging the growth of roots, trees, and shrubs, was read a second time.

Mr. Mainwaring moved that the bill be committed.

Mr. Wyndham objected to the bill's going any farther, on the principle he had stated on the motion for leave to bring it in, viz. the impropriety of unnecessarily multiplying or extending the penal laws. Every penal law was itself an evil, and justifiable only in as much as it went to prevent a greater evil. The aid of the law ought never to be called in till men had done as much as they could do for their own protection. The gardeners, so far from having done this, left their property often without the protection of a common fence, and called on the legislature to do that for them which they neglected to do for themselves. They wished to reduce things to the state in which they were in the days of Alfred, or the golden age.

— *Cum furem nemo timeret
Caulibus aut pomis, sed aperto viveret horto.*

The Attorney General said, he was as averse as any man from enacting penalties disproportionate to offences, being convinced that such penalties always defeated their own end. But in proportion as property was valuable, and from its nature exposed to depredation, it must be protected by the law. This was precisely the situation of nursery grounds, which contained very valuable property, and were necessarily much exposed. Even a brick wall, which could not be built but at a great expence, was a very inadequate protection. As the law stood, a man might rob a garden, or a nursery ground, of property to a great amount, by day, and follow the proprietor before a Justice, where the penalty for the first offence was only forty shillings. In this case the punishment was an invitation to the crime, and therefore he hoped the bill would be suffered to go to a Committee, where a degree of punishment adequate to the offence might be agreed on.

Mr. Mainwaring said, he meant to propose, if the bill should go to a Committee, to put the offence on the same footing with swindling, which might be punished with imprisonment or transportation, at the discretion of the court.

Mr. Burke said, he had always opposed multiplying penal laws, the whole system of which, in this country, he thought radically defective. Instead of applying a remedy to the source of the evil, whenever inconvenience was felt in any particular instance, recourse was had to the le-

gislation for a new law for that particular case. This was like sticking a bush into a gap in a hedge, which, instead of repairing the breach, often ruined the whole fence. Against all offences that admitted of it, a civil was preferable to a criminal remedy, because the damage done could be appreciated by a jury, and not only punishment inflicted on the offender, but reparation made to the injured person. He observed, that the insufficiency of the law was frequently not so much owing to the law itself, as to the remissness of those who were to put it in execution; and hence the legislature was often called on to punish by rigorous penalties, the negligence of the Magistrates on the inadvertencies of the poor. He recommended a revision of the whole criminal law, which in its present state he thought abominable.

On a division, there appeared

For committing the bill,	41
Against it,	11
Majority	30

Mr. Gilbert brought up the report from the Committee of Supply, which was read, and the several resolutions agreed to without opposition.

Mr. Tierney rose to give notice, that on Friday se'nnight it was his intention to submit a proposition to the House on the subject of the Slave Trade. The object of it was to divide the business into two distinct branches, namely, that which regards the interests of the planters as distinguished from the trade carried on by the African merchants for supplying the foreign West India islands with slaves.

Mr. Pitt said, that as far as the Honorable Gentleman had explained the purport of his motion, he certainly should oppose it, because he thought it utterly impracticable, in the present stage of the business, to separate the interests of the African merchants and the planters.

Mr. Tierney replied, that adopting the plan he had suggested, would tend to facilitate the business, as well as operate to the benefit of the planter. The trade of the African merchants was not interrupted by the business before the House; but he believed it would be difficult, if not impracticable, for a proprietor of a West India estate to dispose of it till the House should determine on the resolutions before them. He wished that the interest of the planters should be considered before they went into the general question of the African trade.

Lord Maitland, Mr. W. Smith, and Mr. Wilberforce, spoke each a few words, declaring their disapprobation of interrupting the business by such a practice as the Hon. Gentleman had mentioned.

The order of the day was then moved, and the House, in a Committee of the whole House, resumed the examination of

of the witnesses. After which they adjourned to Friday the 5th of June.

FRIDAY, June 5.

Mr. *Hatfield* acquainted the House, that he had received a letter from the Speaker, which he begged leave to read. The letter stated, that the King had been pleased to appoint Mr. Grenville one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, which, as it vacated his seat in Parliament, made it impossible for him to attend the House as their Speaker. It concluded with his thanks to the House for the favor and indulgence they had shewn him during the time he had the honor to sit in their chair. The mace having been brought in by the Serjeant, it was put under the table.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer then rose, and said, it was his Majesty's desire that there should be as little interruption to the public business as possible; for that purpose his Majesty had been pleased to give the House leave to proceed immediately to the choice of a new Speaker, and that he would receive his Majesty's approbation in the House of Peers on Tuesday.

Mr. Pitt then moved, that the House do adjourn to Monday, then to elect a Speaker; which was agreed to, and they immediately adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

MONDAY, June 8.

HIS Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence was introduced, with the customary ceremonies, by the Duke of Montague and the Duke of Chandos, and his patent being read, the usual oaths were administered to him. His Royal Highness then took his seat, on a chair of state on the left of the throne.

Heard Counsel on an appeal from the Court of Session in Scotland, Mess. Wood and Co. appellants, and ——— Hamilton, respondent.

The Lords were, upon motion, ordered to be summoned to attend his Majesty in the House of Lords to-morrow.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MONDAY, June 8.

THE Marquis of Graham rose, and after adverting to the honorable situation to which their late Speaker had been called, said, it gave him great pleasure to propose, as a fit person to fill the vacant chair, a gentleman who not only possessed the highest qualifications, but qualifications peculiarly fitted for discharging the duties

of so important and difficult an office. There was one circumstance, which those who were strangers to his Hon. Friend might think an objection; that was—his youth; but he trusted that those who were acquainted with him, and who knew the maturity of his understanding, would consider this rather as a recommendation, since it might be expected that the vigor of his constitution would enable him to support the fatigues of the station, and facilitate the dispatch of business. Besides, his Hon. Friend had been regularly bred to the bar, and was known to have paid particular attention to the forms of the House. He concluded his speech with proposing, that Henry Addington, Esq. Member for Devizes, be appointed Speaker.

Mr. *Grosvenor* seconded the motion.

Mr. *W. Ellis* said, that as far as he knew of the Honorable Gentleman who had been proposed by the Noble Marquis, every thing was in his favor; but there was one thing, which did not depend on himself, and that was his experience. Great skill was requisite to direct and to calm the storms which sometimes arose in the heat of debate; and, in doing that, much depended, not only on the actual experience of the Speaker, but on the opinion which the House entertained of that experience. It was true, he might derive great assistance in conducting public business, from the abilities of the gentleman whose duty it was to register the proceedings of the House; but the very circumstance of being obliged to rely on that assistance, would tend to lower him in the esteem of the House, and to lessen that weight and authority which he ought to possess. Let the Honorable Gentleman, therefore, wait till time had added experience to his other qualifications; and in the mean time, he begged leave to recommend Sir Gilbert Elliot to fill the chair, who would see with satisfaction so promising a plant grow up under his shade.

Mr. *F. Montague* seconded Mr. Ellis's motion, and strongly recommended Sir Gilbert Elliot, whose mildness, joined to the utmost firmness of character, rendered him peculiarly fit to conciliate attention, and preserve order.

Mr. *Addington* said, that, agitated as his mind was, it was impossible for him to express, as he ought, his gratitude for the kindness and partiality of the Noble Marquis, and the Hon. Gentleman who had seconded the motion for calling him to the Chair. He was not a stranger to the qualities that were necessary to fill that office, while he felt that he did not possess them. The forms of Parliament, which it was the Speaker's duty to watch over, were the bulwarks of the Constitution. The rights and privileges of the Commons,

Commons, were the rights and privileges of the people; and in proportion as he was acquainted with what the duties of a Speaker required, he felt his own insufficiency to discharge them. He paid some compliments to Sir Gilbert Elliot, and expressed his hope that the superior talents and experience of that Gentleman would be preferred to his.

Sir Gilbert Elliot, after thanking his two Right Hon. Friends for the honor they had done him, observed, that the happiness and prosperity of the country depended on maintaining the dignity of the Commons, and holding the House up as high as possible in the opinion of their constituents, and the world. In order to do this, it was of much importance to consider in what manner they filled the Chair. The situation might give dignity to whoever was raised to it; but the House would not do their duty, if they placed a man in it who had nothing of his own to recommend him. In the House there were many persons who might justify their choice, but he did not feel himself to be one of those. He professed great regard and respect for Mr. Addington, and should therefore vote for his being called to the Chair.

Mr. Fox, Mr. Burke, and Mr. Martin, supported Sir Gilbert Elliot; and Mr. Carew felt himself irresistibly impelled to give the preference to his Hon. Friend Mr. Addington, from the long and intimate knowledge which he had of his abilities and character.

On the question being called for, the gallery was cleared, and the House divided, when there appeared,

For Mr. Addington,	215
Sir Gilbert Elliot,	142

Majority 73

Mr. Addington was then conducted to the Chair by the Marquis of Graham and Mr. Grosvenor, after which the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

TUESDAY, June 9.

AT one o'clock the Lord Chancellor took his seat, and prayers were read by the Bishop of St. David's. His Majesty, at thirty-five minutes after two, came in state to the House of Peers. After being robed in the Prince's Chamber, and his Crown put upon his head, his Majesty entered the House, and ascended the Throne. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales sat in a Chair of State on the right hand, and their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of York and Clarence on his left.

Sir F. Mollineux having been directed

by the Lord Chancellor to wait upon the House of Commons, and command their attendance upon his Majesty in the Upper Chamber of Parliament, the new Speaker, with the proper officers, proceeded to the House of Lords, with upwards of two hundred Members in his train. The usual reverences to the Sovereign being made and returned, Mr. Addington, the Speaker, approached the Bar, and in a short speech stated the peculiar situation in which he stood. The Commons had appointed him their Speaker; the important duties incumbent upon that situation he was fully sensible of, as well as of his own incapacity; and concluded by supplicating his Majesty to excuse him from taking upon him an office, the duties of which he could not but feel he was incompetent to sustain.

The Lord Chancellor, after having taken his Majesty's directions, said,

"Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

"His Majesty has most graciously been pleased to signify his entire approbation of the choice which his faithful Commons have made of a Speaker. At the same time he has taken into his Royal consideration the prayer which you, Mr. Speaker, have made at the Bar, that you might be excused from undertaking the arduous duties of that office, under the impression of inexperience and incompetency. His Majesty, however, considers your excuse as a strong proof of the intrinsic worth of your character and abilities, and therefore he cannot excuse you from entering upon the duties of that important office. His Majesty has likewise commanded me to declare, that he readily and with pleasure confirms all the privileges which have been usually enjoyed by your predecessors in office."

The Speaker then bowed, and withdrew from the Bar, and the greater part of the Members followed him. His Majesty then left the Throne, and retired to unrobe; after which he returned to St. James's Palace.

At four the House was resumed, and the order of the day being then read for a second reading of Lord Stanhope's bill to repeal all the laws which impose fines, penalties, and corporal punishments for the breach of certain Ecclesiastical Ordinances,

The Archbishop of Canterbury rose, and in a speech of considerable length, opposed the bill, as tending to sweep away all order and subordination in the religion of this country, and to establish fanaticism in its stead; to unloose the bands of society, and, under pretence of establishing religious liberty, to open the door to every species of licentiousness. His Lordship very candidly acknowledged, that there were several

several of the penal acts upon the Statute Book which he could wish to see repealed; but it was impossible that this could ever take place in the rash and intemperate manner in which the present bill appeared before the House, which swept away all the Ecclesiastical laws without deliberation or discrimination. He therefore moved to reject the bill.

The Bishops of St. Asaph, Bangor, and St. David's, followed the Archbishop in the same chain of argument.

Earl Stanhope rose to defend his bill, and after touching on the canons of the church, of which he said the Reverend Bishops seemed to be peculiarly tenacious, observed, that one of these canons strictly forbade any priest or vicar, or other ecclesiastical person, under certain pains and penalties, from *casting out devils, laying of ghosts or hobgoblins*, unless he had a licence from a Bishop to perform that solemn ceremony!!! He appealed to their Lordships, to know whether common sense could endure such a mockery of our holy religion? Another of the canons very gravely gives a sick man leave to wear his *night cap* in church, during divine service! So that the poor wretch must be obliged to visit the church once in a month, whatever his state of health might be, otherwise he would incur the dreadful sentence of the act of Parliament; but then there was a salvo, namely a *night cap*. The idea was too ridiculous to endure. His Lordship went on in this strain for a considerable time, and then adverted to some of the acts which had been passed in favor of the Clergy, namely, the 14th of Henry VI. wherein they were pardoned from all crimes, murders, rapes, &c. &c. When this bill passed, the Commons hesitated upon the pardon for rapes, because it implied force and violence, the commission of which was a crime at Common Law; but the advocates for the Clergy easily got over this obstacle, by saying that the crime was only a *gentle force*; and under this persuasion the act of pardon passed. Far different was the case of the Laity; they could obtain no pardon, either from Parliament or from their Ghostly Fathers, unless, indeed, like St. Paul, they could exclaim, "With a great sum purchased I this freedom."

Lord Stormont thought the most advisable mode would be to select a Committee, to examine into those obsolete laws, and to consider which it would be necessary to repeal, and which might, without detriment or inconvenience, remain upon the Statute Book.

On the question being put, the bill was rejected.

Earl Stanhope, finding his bill lost, wished immediately to bring in another, for the relief of Quakers, from an act of the

27th of Henry VIII. and to have it read a first time.

The Chancellor hinted, that it would be more regular to move for the first reading of that bill on another day.

Earl Stanhope acquiesced, and the House then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

TUESDAY, June 9.

The Speaker, having returned from the House of Lords, acquainted the House from the Chair, that his Majesty had been pleased to approve of the choice they had made in electing him to the office which he held. He expressed the grateful sense that he entertained of the honor conferred upon him, and trusted that in his endeavours to discharge his duty, by preserving the forms, and supporting the rights and privileges of the Commons, he should be assisted by their protection.

The order of the day being read for calling over the House,

Mr. Alderman Newnham rose to express the regret that he felt in moving for a call of the House at so late a season, which was particularly inconvenient to a very respectable part of the House, the country gentlemen. The importance of the business was the only apology he could offer; but before he made any farther motion, he wished to know whether it was intended to bring forward any final resolution for the abolition of the Slave Trade.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer observed, that in the present stage of the business it was impossible to say whether the question concerning the abolition of the Slave Trade could be brought to a conclusion in the present session or not. At all events it was necessary that they should make as much progress as possible; on that account he suggested the propriety of postponing the call of the House for a week or a fortnight.

After some further conversation, in which *Mr. Wilberforce*, *Colonel Phipps*, *Mr. Pitt*, *Lord Penrhyn*, *Lord Maitland*, *Sir Grey Cooper*, and other members bore a part, *Alderman Newnham* moved that the House should be called over that day fortnight, which was agreed to.

This matter being settled, the *Alderman* moved for leave to bring up a petition from the Committee appointed by the African Company, praying for a certain sum for building forts on the coast, for the protection of their trade.

Mr. Pitt had no objection to receiving the petition, but he hoped the money would be applied to more useful purposes. The petition was received, and ordered to lie on the table.

WEDNESDAY, June 10.

The order of the day for the House to resolve itself into a Committee of Ways and Means being read, and the various public papers and accounts being referred to the Committee,

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, that although in laying before the Committee an account of the national expenditure and the national income, he should have occasion to bring forward a large demand for the ensuing year, above the ordinary amount of what might have been expected as a peace establishment, and to have recourse to extraordinary means of providing for that demand, yet he had no doubt but that a fair review of the revenue, and of the circumstances that had occasioned this extraordinary demand, would confirm all that he had ever asserted of the improving state of the country; and, instead of weakening, would corroborate the expectations that had been held out to the House four years ago, by the report of the Committee appointed to examine the public accounts. He then stated the supplies voted for the service of the present year. For the ordinary and extraordinary of the Navy, 2,328,570*l*. For the Army 1,517,000*l*. Besides a sum for extraordinaries of 308,000*l*. which being in fact already paid out of sums that had casually fallen into the Exchequer, did not remain to be provided for. For the Ordnance 713,000*l*. For money paid to the Loyalists 555,000*l*. For the maintenance of the convicts 56,000*l*. To make good the deficiency of the Land and Malt Tax 350,000*l*. These, with the sums for plantation services, monies advanced in consequence of addresses, and to the different Boards, made the whole supply for the year 1789 amount to 5,539,000*l*.

To this was to be added, for the present, 191,000*l*. to make good the like sum advanced for foreign secret service from the Civil List. This sum, however, would not eventually add to the expences of the country, because it was to be repaid, with interest, by instalments, which instalments would be regularly applied to the discharge of the money borrowed in consequence of this loan; and he did not imagine the Committee would think it improper to make it good to the Civil List in the mean time. The total supply for the present year would then be 5,730,000*l*.

Having then taken a view of the Ways and Means, which amounted, after all deductions, to 5,800,000*l*. or about 70,000*l*. more than the supply, it remained only to provide for the interest of the million to be borrowed, and for the sum left to the revenue by the repeal of the shop tax.

In providing for the million to be

raised by loan, he had felt it his duty to establish a principal that might confirm the credit and the confidence arising from the unalienable application of a Sinking Fund. For this purpose, it was indispensable either to encrease the Sinking Fund in proportion to the additional debt, or to add to the present taxes without making any addition to the funded debt. The latter method he preferred, as being more secure against any alienation of the Sinking Fund, and enabling him to take advantage of the spirit of adventure to which the present abundance of money in the market gave rise. He meant to raise a million by annuities with benefit of survivorship; by which means a tax would be raised, which in time must extinguish itself, and no addition be made to the public debt. Calculating on the most approved tables of lives, and reckoning the interest of money from the three per cents. at about four per cent. he had found that the interest on the whole would be about 41. 10*s*. per cent. The persons who agreed for the whole had allowed a small premium of 2,500*l*. It was part of the terms that no more than 100*l*. a year should ever be received on the sum of 100*l*. a matter not of much consequence, perhaps, but as it might guard against any uncommon length of survivorship, so far it was in favor of the public. The subscribers were divided into six classes, and it was computed that an equal sum would be subscribed by each; but as more of one class might offer than of any other, the contractors were not to be confined on this head. The interest, therefore, could not be precisely ascertained till the subscription was full, but might be taken at 44.75*l*. To replace the sum lent from the Civil List, he meant to raise 290,000*l*. by short annuities, which the instalments received in payment would answer; and in doing this he had made an economical bargain for the public.

The shop tax had produced last year about 56,000*l*. which, with the Tontine Annuities, would make about 100,000*l*. to be raised by new taxes. To do this he proposed an augmentation of certain stamp duties. 1*st* An additional halfpenny on every newspaper, which would produce 28,000*l*.; 2*nd* sixpence additional on each advertisement, 9000*l*.; 3*rd* sixpence additional on cards and dice, 9000*l*.; 4*th* an additional duty on probates of wills, in proportion to the sum bequeathed, 18,261*l*. on legacies to collateral relations, 5000*l*.; making in all, by stamp duties, 69,261*l*. On horses and carriages—On one carriage an addition of one eighth of the present duty; on two, an addition of one pound for the first, and of two for the second; on three or more, one pound for the first, and three for all the rest; on two horses,

an addition for the first, but five shillings for the second; on three, four, or five horses, seven shillings and sixpence for all above one; on more than five, ten shillings; making in all, with the additional stamp duties, about 111,000*l*. He concluded with observing, that he had studied economy in the loan, and that the taxes were such as would not, in any respect, bear hard on the poor, or those who could not afford to pay towards them, and moved his first resolution.

Mr. *Sheridan* endeavoured to confute some of Mr. *Pitt's* assertions, respecting the prosperous state of the nation; concluded his speech with saying, that he should move for certain papers; and also that they should go into a Committee to consider them.

The resolutions moved by the Chancellor of the Exchequer being agreed to without a division, the report was ordered to be brought up to-morrow; after which the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THURSDAY, June 11.

THE Lords sent a message to the Commons, acquainting them that their Lordships would farther proceed in the trial of Warren Hastings, Esq. on Wednesday next.

Several bills were received from the Commons, and read a first time; after which the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THURSDAY, June 11.

THE order of the day being read for receiving the report of the Budget,

Lord *Newhaven* said, on a matter of so much importance, he wished for some additional information. He had taken down the different articles of Supply, and of Ways and Means, as accurately as he could; and on trying to strike a balance between them, it appeared by his account, that the Supply exceeded the Ways and Means by several hundred thousand pounds. He found also, that the sum lent from the Civil List for secret services was only 182,000*l*. and it was stated in the Supply 191,000*l*.

Mr. *Steele* briefly went over the several articles of the Budget, as stated by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the Committee, and struck a balance as he had done in favor of the Ways and Means.

On all money issued from the Civil List

there was a charge, by act of Parliament, of two and a half per cent. and in passing through the Exchequer a charge of two and a half more, the amount of which, added to 182,000*l*. made the exact sum stated in the Supply. He observed also, that there was a considerable arrear of taxes, which by care and diligence would certainly be brought into the Exchequer, and increase the consolidated fund.

Lord *Newhaven* said, he had asked only for information. With respect to the arrears of taxes, he should take another opportunity of enquiring into that subject.

Mr. *Hussey* said, on comparing the fixed annual expenditure with the annual income, there appeared to be a balance of little more than four millions to provide for the army, the navy, the ordnance, and the various other services that were voted annually. If then the expence of those services was to exceed five millions, which it did for the present year, by what means was a million to be applied to the reduction of the national debt? It was his earnest wish to find that a real surplus, but he could not conceive how it was to arise, while the expenditure for annual services continued so high as at present.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, he was glad to find it at length admitted, that the annual income was greater than it had been calculated by the Committee of Revenue four years ago. With regard to the great expenditure for annual services, Gentlemen would recollect, that the period at which the Committee had calculated those services would be reduced to what might be considered as a permanent peace establishment, was not yet arrived. It was true that, owing to unforeseen circumstances, the expence of several departments was considerably increased this year; but he knew of no part of that expence that would be permanent, except 100,000*l*. a year for the army. It was impossible to say, that circumstances would not arise which might prevent such a reduction, as there was every reason to hope and believe would be made. If such circumstances should arise, new aids must be found to defray the expence. All that he had ever contended for was, that, judging from present appearances, there was no reason to think that such aids would be necessary. There was, besides, good ground for hoping that, if unforeseen expences should arise, the growing produce of the taxes, under such regulations as might be, and were to be provided, would be equal to those expences. A regulation of this sort he had already intimated his intention of carrying into effect this session with regard to the duties on tobacco; and

he took the opportunity of giving notice, that, on Monday next, he should submit to the House a proposition for putting them under the management of the Excise.

Mr. Sheridan, Sir Grey Cooper, Sir Charles Middleton, and some other Members spoke, after which the resolutions of the Committee were read, and on the question being put, were agreed to without a division.

The order of the day was then read, and the House resumed the consideration of the Slave Trade, in a Committee, Sir William Dolben in the Chair. After proceeding to the examination of evidence, the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

FRIDAY, June 12.

HEARD Counsel on a Scots appeal. Several private bills were received from the Commons. Heard Counsel on Arabin's Divorce bill. The bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

FRIDAY, June 12.

THE County Election bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed on Tuesday next.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved to discharge the order for going into a Committee of the whole House to consider of the duties on tobacco on Monday next, and to make a new order for Tuesday next, because he had received an intimation from the dealers in that article that they could not be ready on Monday next.

The Committee on the Westminster Insurance bill was adjourned to Monday.

The House then resolved into a Committee of Supply, and the articles of the Budget remaining to be voted were agreed to without any debate.

The Committee on the Slave Trade was resumed, and after hearing further evidence, the House adjourned till Monday.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

MONDAY, June 15.

THE motion for resolving into a Committee on the Highland Society Bill, brought on a conversation between the Lord Chancellor and Lord Hopeton.

The Chancellor observed, that the disannexing act having directed the forfeited estates to be restored to the heirs of the

original proprietors, and that the produce of such of them as there were no heirs to claim, should be at the disposal of Parliament, he could not conceive that by the words *at the disposal of Parliament*, it was meant that the produce of those unclaimed estates should be scrambled for by dint of favor or interest with the Minister for the time being; on the contrary, the words seemed to him clearly to imply, that it was to be applied by Parliament to the public service.

Lord Hopeton said, it had been wisely and generously resolved by Parliament, that the produce of the forfeited estates should be applied to public purposes in Scotland, for the improvement of that part of the country in which they chiefly lay. He recapitulated the various purposes to which the money arising from those estates had been applied before the disannexing act, and contended, that the grant to the Highland Society was strictly consistent with the original plan.

The Chancellor replied, that if the money were once disposed of on any general principle clearly understood, he should have no objection to it, whether it were for the civilization of the Highlands, which he had hoped was completed, or for the promotion of any other plan; but he thought money could not well be in a worse situation than where it was to be the object of competition by different interests before the Minister.

The House then resolved into a Committee, and the bill was gone through. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MONDAY, June 15.

Mr. Dundas moved for leave to bring in a bill for the relief of the Ministers and Laymen of the Episcopal communion in Scotland. A very material change, he observed, had lately taken place in the political opinions of those people, who, since the death of the late Pretender, had acknowledged the title of the reigning family, and agreed to pray for the King. It was the intention of the bill to repeal the penal acts in force against them, and to put them on the same footing with the English Protestant dissenters.

Mr. Dempster seconded the motion.

The House resolved into a Committee on it; leave was given, the bill was brought in, read a first time, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Burgess moved to resolve into a Committee on the bill for the relief of debtors, and the more speedy payment of creditors.

Mr.

Mr. Wigley opposed the further progress of the bill, as laying additional incumbrances on creditors, as establishing a perpetual insolvent act, as preventing any debtor from obtaining his discharge who did not pay ten shillings in the pound, and as adding improperly to the hardships of imprisonment for debt.

Mr. Burgess said, the bill had undergone so many alterations in a Committee above stairs, that the House could not know the contents of it without going into a Committee: as the present was not the proper stage to debate the several clauses, he trusted, that, as the general

purpose of the bill was a good one, the House would not dismiss it without consideration.

The House divided,

Ayes for committing the bill,	31
Noes,	18

Majority	19
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The bill passed the Committee without any debate, and the report was ordered to be received on Thursday.

The House then resolved into a Committee on the Slave Trade, and heard farther evidence; after which they adjourned.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 4.

ADVICES were received here yesterday from the Commander in Chief of the army in Finland, that the Swedes had repassed the Kymen, and had entirely evacuated the Russian territory.

Stockholm, Sept. 8. Accounts were received here this morning, that the King of Sweden had quitted the neighbourhood of Hogfors, and fallen back to the frontiers of his own dominions. The Russians attempted to cut off the Swedish garrison in their retreat; in which they would probably have succeeded, had it not been for the spirited efforts of a battalion of the West-Gotha-Dal regiment, who prevented the landing of the enemy's troops that had been embarked in thirteen galleys, with a view to effect a descent at some distance from that fortress.

A report having been spread that the Russians had formed the project of sending a part of their coasting fleet, with troops, to attempt a landing near this capital, orders have been issued for arming and disciplining the city militia; and every necessary precaution is taken for the defence of the neighboring coasts.

Vienna, Sept. 9. The Emperor, who removed to Hetzendorf on Thursday last, begins already to benefit from the change of air, and his Imperial Majesty is now in a better state of health than he has been in at any time for the last five months.

An account was published here on Sunday evening last, by which it appears, that on the 28th ult. the Turks were again defeated by the corps under General Clairfait, and obliged to take refuge in the fortresses of Orlova.

The march of the Grand Army from Weiskirchen for Symria began on the 30th ult. in three columns, by different routes, which are to rendezvous in the vicinity of Opova, and to be afterwards joined by the Croatian army, which has

hitherto been encamped at Ruma. The whole force intended for the attack of Belgrade is computed at upwards of seventy thousand men.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 10. Yesterday being the anniversary of the name-day of his Imperial Highness the Great Duke Alexander Paulovitz, and the feast-day of St. Alexander Newsky, it was celebrated at Court, as usual, in grand Gala, and in the evening there was a ball.

Vienna, Sept. 12. The Emperor, perceiving his recovery to be confirmed by the progressive amendment in his health, has now dismissed his medical attendants, after rewarding them in the most liberal manner. Baron Storck, his first physician, and M. Brambilla, his principal surgeon, have received the sum of one thousand sovereigns each, and a ring of the value of one thousand ducats. The inferior physicians and surgeons, and all the domestics of every description that have been about his Majesty's person at Luxembourg, have been also rewarded in proportion to their rank and services. Since his removal to Hetzendorf his Majesty has made several excursions in the environs of that place; and yesterday morning he took an airing on horseback, as far as to the lines of this city.

Marshal Haddick returned here on Thursday evening much recovered. On the 3d of this month Marshal Laudohn returned to Semlin, and on the next day the Archduke arrived at that place. Marshal Pellegrini is still at Peterwaradin.

Dresden, Sept. 16. M. de Malachowsky, the Polish Envoy to this Court, is arrived, and has had an audience of the Elector to present his credentials.

Berlin, Sept. 17. The difference between the Russian and Swedish accounts received here of the action between the two coasting fleets, on the 24th ult. is so great, as to make it extremely difficult to form a just idea of the result, or of the consequences.

consequences which may ensue; but, upon the whole, it is believed that the Swedish galleys, which made good their retreat, are not rendered unfit for service; and that they are sufficiently numerous to prevent the Russians from having a decided superiority. This opinion is confirmed by the certainty of the King of Sweden's having received a considerable reinforcement of troops and stores, which make his force by land superior to that of Russia, and may enable him to support himself during the few remaining weeks that this campaign can last.

Vienna, Sept. 19 An *Estafette* arrived here yesterday from Marshal Laudohn, with intelligence that the army from Weiskirchen effected the passage of the Danube on the 8th instant, and on the evening of that day encamped at Banofze. After its junction with the corps from Croatia, the whole army marched forward to Paliofze, where it arrived on the 10th. In the morning of the 11th, before day-break, the advanced guard, under the command of the Prince of Waldeck, passed the Save, in boats, from Paliofze to Ostrowitza, and halted at Schelnefnik. The rest of the army also crossed that river the next morning, in three divisions, and advanced to join the Prince of Waldeck. In the evening of the 12th the whole army encamped on the heights of Dedina, which command the lines of circumvallation constructed by Prince Eugene, when he besieged Belgrade in the year 1717. The Imperial army met with no opposition from the enemy during its march. One of the Turkish armies is stationed at Ilmail, another at Ruschuck, and a third in the vicinity of Bender. The Pacha of Rometia was, on the 14th instant, within six German miles of the Imperialists; but his whole force is said not to exceed thirty thousand men.

Vienna, Sept. 23. Advices have been received here, that Prince Potemkin's army passed the Dniester on the 20th instant.

Vienna, Sept. 26 Intelligence has been received here of the trenches having been opened before Belgrade, both on the heights, where Marshal Laudohn's army is posted, and on the Banks of the Save, (in the front of Semlin) where Prince de Ligne commands.

Madrid, Sept. 28. On the 21st instant, being the day appointed for the ceremony of the King of Spain's Coronation, or, as it is here termed, his Public Entry, their Catholic Majesties, together with all the Royal family of Spain, in different state coaches, preceded by the three companies of life guards, and the great officers of state, and followed by the attendants in waiting of each individual of the Royal family, in different state carriages, form-

ing altogether a most numerous, splendid, and magnificent procession, left the Palace about six o'clock in the evening, and proceeded through some of the principal streets of this city, to the church of St. Mary, where *Te Deum* was sung; and from thence their Majesties returned, in like manner, through other streets, to the Palace. The streets through which the procession passed were lined with the foot guards and the other troops in garrison here, and orders had been previously given for all the houses to be decorated and illuminated, in the best manner possible, on that and the two following days.

On the 22d, in the afternoon, their Majesties and the Royal family went in the same state to the Plaza Mayor, or principal square in the city, to see the Royal Bull Feast. On such occasions it has been the ancient custom for the bulls to be fought by noblemen, or gentlemen of distinguished birth: on the present, four gentlemen entered the lists, and fought the six first bulls on horseback. They have been rewarded, in the usual manner, with a pension, and with the rank of *Caballero de Campo*, or Equerry to the King. The rest of the bulls were fought by the most famous bull fighters that could be collected from every part of the kingdom. The balconies of the first, second, and third stories of the houses in the square were appropriated to the reception of the great officers of state and their ladies, of both the male and female part of the Royal household, the members of the council of Castile, those of the other supreme councils of the kingdom, and of the heads of many other departments of the state, who all attended with their ladies, in court dresses. The ambassadors, and other foreign ministers, were invited to the feast, and a balcony was allotted to each. The ambassadors had their seats on the first story, and the ministers of the second order and the charge des affaires on the second. By the most exact computation of the number of spectators in the square, they amounted to about forty-five thousand.

On the 23d their Majesties and the Royal family went early in the morning, in private, to the Old Palace of the Buen Retiro, to which the church of St. Jerome joins. At nine o'clock the King and Queen, with the Prince of Asturias and the Infant Don Antonio, entered the church. Their Majesties took their seats on a throne to the right of the high altar, and the Prince of Asturias and the Infant Don Antonio on chairs, to the left of the throne, opposite to which was seated the Cardinal-Patriarch of the Indies, and next to his Eminence thirteen archbishops and bishops on a bench. The remaining space of the platform raised before the high

high altar was occupied by the great officers of state and of the household. At the entrance of it stood four heralds at arms, and on the steps four mace bearers, with the Royal maces. In the body of the church were seated, according to their rank, a certain number of the *grandees* of Spain, of the *Titulos* of Castile, and the *Procuradores de Cortes*, or representatives of those cities and towns who have the right of vote in the *Cortes* of the nation. After the mass was ended, at which the Cardinal Archbishop of Toledo officiated, his Eminence took his seat at the foot of the high altar, and before him was placed a table, with the book of the Gospel open, and a golden cross on it. The senior herald at arms then read the proclamation for the oath of allegiance, which was afterwards repeated by the senior law officer. This oath declares allegiance to the King of Spain, and to the Prince of Asturias, acknowledging his Royal Highness to be the Prince of this realm during his Majesty's life, and to be the lawful King, Lord, and Heir of the dominions of Spain at his Majesty's death. After the oath was read, the Infant Don Antonio moved from his seat, and knelt before the Cardinal Archbishop, to swear to the observance of it. His Royal Highness then did homage to the King, and after embracing his Majesty and the Queen, and the Prince of Asturias, returned to his seat. The *Mayordomo Mayor*, or Lord Steward of the Household, was then appointed by the King to receive the homage of all those who were present. The Cardinal Patriarch rose first, who, having sworn before the Archbishop and the *Mayordomo Mayor*, kissed their Majesties and the Prince of Asturias' hands. The same ceremony was successively observed, first by the Prelates, next by the *Grandees*, after them by the *Titulos*, and lastly by the *Procuradores de Cortes*. The Patriarch then took the Archbishop's place, in order to administer the oath to the latter, and the ceremony concluded with singing *Te Deum*. The diplomatic body were invited to see this solemn act, and a gallery opposite to the throne was allotted for their reception. Their Majesties and the Royal family dined at the *Buen Retiro*, and late in the evening returned in state to the palace.

The decorations and illuminations of some of the houses of the *grandees*, and others of the nobility, which happened to be situated in the streets through which the procession passed on the three before mentioned days, were very splendid and costly; and those of the *Plaza Mayor*, and of the great square before the palace, were executed with the utmost magnificence.

His Catholic Majesty on this occasion has made a general promotion in his navy

and army; and the coronation has been, and continues to be, celebrated by balls and festivals of different kinds.

Paris, Oct. 7. It being customary for the *Gardes du Corps*, at Versailles, to give an entertainment to any new regiment that arrives there, the regiment de Flandres was on Thursday last sumptuously entertained with a dinner by that corps in the palace. After dinner their most Christian Majesties judged proper to honor the company with their presence, and condescended to shew their satisfaction at the general joy which prevailed among the guests. On their appearance the music instantly played the favorite song of *O Richard—O mon Roi*, and the company joining in chorus, seemed to unite all ideas in one unanimous sentiment of loyalty and love for the King, and nothing was heard for some time but repeated shouts of *Vive le Roi*, within and without the palace. In the height of their zeal they proceeded to tear the National cockades from their hats, and trampled them under their feet. The *Gardes du Corps* supplied themselves with black cockades in the room of those they had treated with such disdain. The news of these proceedings soon reached Paris, where a general ill humor visibly gained ground.

On Saturday there were great disturbances in the Palais Royal, and it became unsafe for any one to appear with black cockades, as several foreigners experienced, from whose hats they were torn with much violence, and abusive language.

On Sunday the confusion increased, and a vast concourse of people tumultuously assembled at the Town House, under the pretence of demanding bread, and enquiring into the real causes of the extreme scarcity of it at this season of the year.

On Monday morning a number of women, to the amount of upwards of five thousand, armed with different weapons, marched in regular order to Versailles, followed by the numerous inhabitants of the Fauxbourgs, St. Antoine, and St. Marceau, with several detachments of the city militia; and in the evening the Marquis de la Fayette, at the head of 20,000 of that corps, likewise marched to Versailles.

On Tuesday morning an account was received of some blood having been spilt. The *Gardes du Corps* fired on the Parisians, and five or six persons, chiefly women, were killed. The regiment de Flandres was also drawn out to oppose this torrent; but the word to fire was no sooner given, than they all to a man clubbed their arms, and, with a shout of *Vive la Nation*, went over to the Parisians. Some troops of dragoons that are quartered at Versailles also laid down their arms,

and

and the Swiss detachments remained motionless, having received no orders from their officers to fire. The Gardes du Corps being thus abandoned, and overpowered by numbers, fled precipitately into the gardens and woods, where they were pursued, many of them killed and taken prisoners. Some of the heads of those who were killed, were carried to Paris, and paraded through the streets on spikes. The same morning, a report came that the King, Queen, and Royal Family were on their way to Paris. Upon this the people began to assemble from all parts of the town; and above 50,000 of the militia proceeded to line the streets, and the road to Versailles. Their Majesties and the Royal Family accordingly arrived between seven and eight o'clock in the evening, after having been six hours on the road. The carriages all proceeded to the Town House. The concourse of people that attended is not to be described, and the shouts of *Vive la Nation* filled the air. From the Town House they were conducted to the Palace of the Thuilleries, though totally unprepared for their reception, where they passed the night.

Vienna, October 3. On Wednesday last an officer arrived from the combined army, under the command of the Prince of Saxe-Cobourg and Gen. Suwarow, with the news of a signal victory obtained over the army of the Grand Vizir, on the 22d of September, near Martinestie, in Wallachia, when the Turkish army, consisting of between ninety and a hundred thousand men, was entirely defeated, after an obstinate engagement. The loss of the Turks amounted to five thousand killed on the spot, and two thousand in the pursuit. Very few prisoners were taken, as the enemy in general refused to surrender, and would not accept of quarter. The combined army took possession of the Turkish camp, which was abandoned in the utmost confusion, the fugitives having passed the river Rimnik, and taken the road to Brailow. The trophies which have fallen into the hands of the victors, consist of nearly one hundred standards, six mortars, seven pieces of heavy cannon, sixty-four field pieces, and a prodigious quantity of ammunition, stores, and baggage of all kinds. The loss of the combined army was between four and five hundred men killed and wounded, and about a hundred horses.

The Emperor has promoted the Prince of Saxe-Cobourg to the rank of Field Marshal.

Vienna, Oct. 7. On the evening of Monday last, his Imperial Majesty returned to his Palace in town, for the winter. The fever has entirely left him, and he walked out yesterday on the ramparts.

An account was published here on the

4th inst. of Marshal Laudohn's having on the 30th ult. made himself master, by assault, of all the suburbs of Belgrade.

General Rouvroi died of a fever at Semlin, on the 30th of September.

EAST INDIA INTELLIGENCE.

Extract of a Letter from Madras, dated March 26, 1789, received by the Dublin, from a Mate belonging to a Country Ship.

"Our ship being short of water, I went on shore to a desert island, near Queda, on the coast of Malay, and soon found a fine rivulet, but was obstructed by a very large snake on the opposite side of it; upon which I immediately armed myself with a fusce, pistols and hanger, and advanced (for water I was resolved to have) to the snake, which sprung from the bank towards me; when the Lascars who were with me ran away and left me. Fortunately, upon firing one of the pistols, I wounded the snake, but so slightly, that it soon recovered, and grew more fierce. I accordingly fired the other, which missed; and as my last resource, having kept the fusce in reserve, and waiting till the snake came within eight yards of me, I lodged the contents in its body; and fearful lest it should recover, I cut it with my hanger till it was totally deprived of life; after which I took the snake on board the ship: it measured thirty-two feet and a half in length, bulk in proportion, and had three rows of teeth. It is of the species called buffalo snakes, from their attacking and killing the buffalo by the following means: They spring upon the buffalo, and continue twisting themselves, by degrees, round his body, that in a couple of days the buffalo becomes, as it were, screwed up so tight that he dies, and falls an easy prey to the snake. I made a present of the skin to the Lady of Sir William Jones, in Calcutta: and think I had a very providential escape from so tremendous an animal."

WEST INDIES.

Nassau, Aug. 15. On Monday his Excellency the Governor returned from a month's tour to windward, during which he visited Exuma, Long Island, Turk's Island, &c. and also called in at Cape Francois, where he was received with the politeness and hospitality for which our French neighbours are so eminently distinguished.

William Walker, Esq. arrived at Exuma the 1st inst. from St. Vincent. This gentleman, in a letter to his friend here, says, "I have brought down from his Majesty's

Majesty's Botanic Gardens, in St. Vincent, several curious and useful plants, which, excepting two or three, are all alive. Amongst those which have come safe, are the cinnamon, sago, gum arabic, Chinese tallow tree, mango, bread nut, garlick shrub, African lilly, Spanish chestnut, ball apple, or water melon, with several others; and I am happy to inform you, that Mr. Anderson, the King's Superintendent of that garden, was momentarily expecting the arrival of a ship from Otaheite, with a quantity of the bread fruit-tree, of which he was so good as to promise me a part to introduce it into the Bahamas. This tree agreeing well with a dry soil, I expect it will be a valuable acquisition to our planters."

On the morning of the 26th of July, the ship Friendship, Edward Lamb, Master, from St. Lucia, in Jamaica, for London, was driven by a strong current on the Martyrs, in lat. 25, 28, where she immediately bulged. Next day several wrecking vessels from this port came to the wreck, and have saved a considerable part of the cargo, rigging, &c. Captain Lamb and his crew are arrived here.

SCOTLAND.

Dundee, Sept. 22. On Saturday the 22d of August, the following uncommon phenomenon happened in the parish of Monikie, about seven miles from this place. As I have not seen it taken notice of in any of the public papers, I have no doubt the following account will be acceptable to your readers:—

The afternoon of Saturday was somewhat cloudy. Thunder was heard at a distance, and rain was expected against evening. Accordingly, about five o'clock, P. M. it was perceived to rain to the westward, and, before six, a very remarkable noise was heard, as of approaching rain, but a great deal louder than I ever remember to have heard any noise of that kind; several very remarkable clouds were seen, and the rain began to fall in a considerable shower. About the place where I stood, the atmosphere appeared serene, with little or no wind; when, all of a sudden, a smart crack, something resembling the firing of a musket, was heard; whereupon, looking towards the farm town of Wester-Densides, at a little distance (from whence the noise seemed to proceed), I was surprised to behold a large quantity of straw carried to a great height in the air; and coming across a field to within about one hundred yards of the place where I stood, it made a sudden stop, and appeared to be quite suspended in the air; but, at the same time, it was driven upwards and downwards, and

wirled round in circles with amazing velocity. Continuing in the same place about five or six minutes it appeared to me at this time as if there had been an extraordinary power of attraction in the circumambient elements: (but I shall leave this to those who are more fully acquainted with the mysteries of nature, and proceed with my narrative. Keeping the same direction, it went over a moor where several people were at work; but luckily none were in its way. The astonished spectators beheld the water driven from the moor-pits, in large sheets, to the height of twenty or thirty feet: then breaking with a great noise, it seemed to fall as a shower. After it had passed the moor, it raised a cloud of dust, although the surface of the ground was all over wet, carrying it up in a spiral form, till our sight could follow it no further.

At the farm of Wester-Denside, it took most part of the roof from off two houses, overturned a large mow of straw, and several things in its way. The straw was let fall in general above a mile from whence taken up.

Where it had its rise I know not, I have heard of it several miles distant, with an account of many strange things done by it; but in this account I have confined myself to my own observation, which is not here exaggerated. I suppose its direction to have been within a point of from North-West to South-East.

What was also very remarkable is, that a cloud of a preternatural appearance was observed moving along in the same direction, perpendicularly above it. From the observation of several people who saw it when the straw stopped in the air, as before related, the cloud also appeared to stop at the same time; from the centre to the front of the said cloud, there appeared as it were the index of a clock, twisted like the tail of a serpent, pointing the same track kept by the hurricane. This cloud was observed by many at a great distance from the place where this happened, who were also alarmed with the noise of the wind.

I shall only add that, for my share, I never beheld a scene so awfully tremendous; and I was ready to say, "How great is He who rides on the whirlwind, and directs the storm!"

COUNTRY NEWS.

Derby, Sept. 23. On Thursday last a very melancholy accident happened at Alkington, near Manchester. As some men were removing the wood from an old coal-pit, the earth suddenly gave way, and buried two of them in the pit, this causing the top to fall in, the ban-

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stided along with it, and all inevitably perished: they were married men, and one has left eleven children.

Oxford, Oct. 3. Last Wednesday se'n night in the afternoon, during a most tremendous tempest at Armscott, near Shipston, Worcesterhire, a ball of fire was seen to enter the barns of a Mr. Wells, which, with the stables, &c. being a quadrangle of about 25 bays of building, were instantaneously lighted up, and being mostly filled with the fruits of the poor man's labour, were all consumed, having only time to disentangle the horses from a load of corn, jolt brought from the field, which was done with great difficulty, and which, with the waggon, two fat pigs, and all the implements of husbandry, shared the same fate.

Last Sunday morning Mr. John Osborn, of this city, mason, was unhappily drowned in the stream, a little below Ofeney Mill, where the water was not more than a yard deep. About seven o'clock in the morning he went down to bathe, as was usual with him once a week, and is supposed to have been suddenly affected with a violent spasm in his stomach, a disorder he was subject to, which destroyed his power of regaining the bank, and being alone, perished for want of assistance.

Newcastle, Oct. 3. We have accounts from almost every place, that there are the greatest quantities of hay on hand that ever was remembered by the oldest person living. Many of the farmers have hay four years old, and in several market towns it is selling for two-pence per stone.

On Saturday last, Mr. James Leyburn, of Ryton, being with some friends in a public house in this town, in a fit of insanity seized a knife and cut his throat, and almost immediately expired. And on Monday a girl, servant to a gentleman in Pilgrim-street, was found hanging in a garret; after being cut down, means were used for her recovery, but they proved ineffectual. It is a melancholy truth, that the Coroners for this town have been summoned to attend twenty-one cases of suicide within the last twelve months.

Nantwich, Oct. 9. Early on the morning of the 7th inst. the banks of the aqueduct of the Staffordshire canal, across Wincham valley, in this county, gave way; from whence the water, as may be supposed, rushed down into the river beneath with the greatest impetuosity. Two corn-mills on the same stream below were in imminent danger of being forced down by the vast body of water driving from the canal upon them, but fortunately received much less damage than might have been expected; in consequence of which, and the general heavy rains on the preceding night, there was one of the greatest

floods ever remembered on the river Weaver on Wednesday last. The water in the river rose from 16 to 18 feet above its usual height. Most of the streets were under a violent current of water, from six to eight feet deep, and almost every avenue impassable, except in boats. Several hundred thousand bushels of salt were destroyed, and very much injury done to the salt-houses; the town and saltworks surrounded, and in many places three parts covered with one general inundation, formed a scene beyond description awful. Happily no lives were lost, though many were in much danger.

Birmingham, Oct. 16. About twelve o'clock on Sunday night last, the house of Mr. Wilson, by Aston Park-wall, in the road from hence to Perry, was broke into by four ruffians, two of whom, after striking a light, went into a chamber, where a servant girl and child lay, and presenting a pistol, threatened to blow out her brains, unless she informed them where the money was kept; but not receiving a satisfactory answer, one of them held the bedcloaths over the girl and child, whilst the other forced open a chest, and took every article of linen and wearing apparel they could meet with, together with about 61. in cash. The other two men, in the mean time, were employed in another part of the house, where Mr. Wilson and his wife slept; the former, an elderly man, they dragged into the cellar, and soon after, on account of her cries, Mrs. Wilson and her niece, who had secreted herself under her bed; after which they made the door secure, by means of a rope they brought with them, and having rifled every part of the house, they carried off their booty, locking the house door, and taking the key with them.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

Sept. 29. On Friday night last, the Coroner's Inquest met at the Blue Posts, in Cork-street, and sat on the body of Eleanor Johnson, a beautiful young girl, only seventeen years of age, who had that morning poisoned herself at the house of her mother, Mr. Frazer, Optician, Old Bond-street. The circumstances attending the unhappy fate of this young woman being rather singular, we shall lay them before our readers in the authentic manner they were reported to us by the Foreman of the Jury.—It appeared in evidence that an intimacy had subsisted some time between the deceased and a black man, named Thomas Cato, a native of the East Indies, on whom she had fixed her affection; that on Thursday she had received a letter from him, wherein he accused her

of

of deceit; but which she had burnt. The contents of this epistle produced her fatal resolution. She wrote him a letter, which she meant to have forwarded by the penny-post; and afterwards purchased three penny-worth of white mercury, at an Apothecary's, under pretence of its being to kill rats. Between twelve and one o'clock in the morning she executed her dreadful purpose, having previously mixed the poisonous drug in some liquid. She rang the bell violently twice; which being answered by a domestic, she said, "Call my mistress directly, for I am very ill," but before her mistress could reach her apartment, we was insensible, and expired in a few minutes. When examined before the Jury, the Black appeared so ignorant and illiterate, that nothing could be collected from his evidence; nor the purport of the letter he had sent her be come at; but when her letter to him was read he wept bitterly. The Jury, after a very humane and attentive consideration, brought in their verdict, lunacy.

The following is an exact copy of the letter sent to Cato by this unhappy girl:—

Sept. 24, 1789.

"My Dear Thomas Cato,

"The letter I received this evening makes me very unhappy; to think you should expose me, and say I am deceitful, and forget my fond embraces so soon; no, my dear, I am not deceitful, nor did not intend to be—if I had, I should not have given my company to one not of my own colour: likewise, now you think me untrue, you shall have your property returned with pleasure; for, was you the finest man that ever my eyes beheld, after using me in this manner, I would not make you my husband; but I did intend it, from my heart, even to this hour—but, I am sorry to say, I never shall be married, nor never shall enjoy any thing again. As for you, you never will make use of your loving embraces with me any more—neither will you have it in your power to speak to me any more, for I am very sure, the hour of immortality is drawing very near—I can feel my heart decay very fast—you could never make me recompence for the hurt you have done me.—Let these few words be printed in your heart, as I am not able to write any more—for my eyes are flowing with tears—and my heart doth ach so, I cannot hold my pen—but am your sincere well-wisher—till death—

"E. JOHNSON."

30. A Common Hall was afterwards held for the election of a Lord Mayor of this City, for the year ensuing, when Mr. Alderman Pickett was chosen by a great

majority; he addressed the Livery thereon, in the following terms:

"Gentlemen of the Livery, I feel myself much honoured in being elected Chief Magistrate of this great and opulent city: To do equal justice to all, without fear or favor; to protect every individual in his personal liberty to the utmost of my power; strictly to maintain and adhere to the principles of our invaluable Constitution, as settled at the glorious Revolution; to support the rights and privileges of my fellow-citizens, are the objects for attention that make the most forcible impression upon my mind.

"I am well aware of the importance of the station in which you have placed me; and, though conscious of not possessing abilities equal to many Gentlemen who have gone before me, you may be assured, in this and every trust that you may be pleased to repose in me, that it will be my anxious pursuit, as well as the whole length of my ambition, to discharge the duties with substantial utility to the public, honour to myself, and satisfaction to you."

The thanks of the Common Hall were voted to William Curtis, Esq. and Sir Benjamin Hammet, Knt. the late Sheriffs, and the Common Hall was adjourned.

October 2. Wednesday, at a meeting of the College of Physicians, in Warwick-lane, Sir George Baker, Bart. was elected President; and the following gentlemen were elected Censors for the year ensuing:—Dr. Donald Monro, Dr. Hervey, Dr. Budd, and Dr. Ash.

19. A few days since a very handsome monument was erected by the Earl of Aylesford, under the tree in his Lordship's park, at Packington, where the unfortunate man was killed by lightning. The following is the inscription thereon.

ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3.

MDCCCLXXXIX,

WILLIAM CAWSEY, OF LONDON,
FARRIER,

WAS ON THIS SPOT STRUCK DEAD
BY LIGHTNING.

TO COMMEMORATE
THIS AWFUL EVENT,
AS WELL AS TO WARN OTHERS
FROM EXPOSING THEMSELVES
TO THE SAME DANGER,
BY TAKING SHELTER
IN A THUNDER STORM,
UNDER TREES,

THIS MONUMENT IS ERECTED.

B I R T H.

October 7. Mrs. Waugh, wife of the Rev. Mr. Alexander Waugh, of Well-street Chapel, of a son, at his house in Alltop's Buildings, Marylebone.

M A R P I E D.

Sept. 26. On Monday last, at Staiton, Pembrokehire, Capt. Henry Healy, of
R r 2 the

the late 102d regiment, to Miss Matilda Morgan, of Carmarthen.

Lately, at Lanfoist, near Abergavenny, John Jones, Esq. of Lanarth, to Miss Lee, daughter of Richard Lee, Esq. of Lanfoist.

Henry White, of Mantle-hill, county of Tipperary, Esq. to Miss Connor, daughter of the late Daniel Connor, Esq. of Corke.

29. On Thursday, the Rev. Ralph Ayden, rector of Hatterden, Leicestershire, to Miss Rachael Knight, youngest daughter of George Knight, Esq. of Goadby, in that county.

Sunday se'nnight, at the Collegiate church, Manchester, Mr. William Lings, attorney at law, to Miss Albiston, of Manchester.

Thursday se'nnight, Mr. Joshua Chapman, farmer, of Little Walham, aged 63, to Mrs. Ann Fitch, of the same place, aged 73.

Tuesday, Mr. John Bowland, to Miss Barnes, both of Colchester.

Yesterday, at Eton, the Rev. Mr. Mannington, of Hanwell, to Miss Mason, of Eton.

30. Yesterday, at Lambeth church, Mr. John Hoppe, of the Minorics, to Miss Heath, of Chester-place, Lambeth.

October 1. On Wednesday, at Yarmouth, Lieutenant Andrew Taylor, of the navy, to Miss Mitchell, of Yarmouth.

Last week, Thomas Tenison, Esq. of Blackhall, in the county of Kilkenny, Ireland, to Miss Blackmore, of Graige.

3. Yesterday, at the Tower chapel, the Rev. Mr. Roberts, to Miss Gore, eldest daughter of Colonel Gore, Deputy Governor of the Tower.

Yesterday, John Channing, Esq. of Gower-street, to Miss Perkins, second daughter of John Perkins, Esq. of Staines, Middlesex.

Thursday se'nnight, the Rev. William Camplin, vicar of Locking, in Somersetshire, to Miss Tustin, of Bristol.

Lately, Mr. Dixon, flour and linen merchant, aged 75, to Mrs. Mitchell, both of Newcasttle. She is his fourth wife, and he her second husband. He had been a widower seven weeks, and she a widow nine.

On Thursday last, at St. George's church, Hanover-square, Francis Joseph Barret, Esq. junior, of Mount-street, Grosvenor-square, to Miss Lucy Swinburn, from Hexham, in Northumberland.

6. Yesterday se'nnight, at Oxford chapel, Mr. H. Watson, of Oxford street, to Miss P. Anderson, of Titchfield-street.

At Swir Castle, county of Tipperary, Major Greene, of Waterford, to Miss Jane Maffey, second daughter of the Right Hon. Lord Maffey.

8. Last week, Thomas Waters, Esq. lately arrived from Bencoolen, to Mrs. Maria Drake, of Charlotte-street, Rathbone-place.

Yesterday, at St. Ann's, Soho, Peter Bale, Esq. of the Excise-office, to Miss Maria Frances Edwin, of Kennington-row, Lambeth.

On Sunday, at Gravesend, Mr. Adam Sewell, of Tower-hill, to Miss Anne Neal, daughter of Pendock Neal, Esq. of Gravesend.

12. Last Sunday, at St. Mary Woolnorth, Lombard-street, Captain Long, to Miss Brandon.

Saturday, Mr. Henry Robinson, of Coventry-street, to Miss Smith, of Fleet-street.

On Monday, at Chichester, Charles Baker, Esq. to Miss Woods.

13. Lately, at Donedeia Castle, in the county of Kildare, Ireland, Sir John Hort, of Hortland, Baronet, his Majesty's Consul General at the Court of Portugal, to Miss Aylmer, daughter of Sir Fitzgerald Aylmer, Bart.

Thursday, at Salisbury, Alexander Geddes, Esq. of the 31st regiment of foot, to Miss Harriet Easton, daughter of Mr. Alderman Easton, of that city.

The same day, Mr. Gregg, surgeon and apothecary, of Wellingborough, to Miss Susannah Thompson, daughter of the late Mr. Alderman Thompson, of Northampton.

Sunday last, Mr. George Hewitt, of King-street, to Miss Hannah Kelsall, eldest daughter of the late Richard Kelsall, Esq. of Clifford's Inn.

On the 7th instant, at Kirkton-hill, William Richardson, Esq. late of the island of St. Vincent, to Miss Elizabeth Gardiner, daughter of David Gardiner, Esq. of Kirkton-hill.

On Monday, the 5th instant, in Paris, by the Rev. Mr. Burroughs, chaplain to his Grace the Duke of Dorset, Harry Ann Lambert, Esq. Captain in the 1st regiment of life guards, to Miss Whyte.

At Dublin, Dr. Mackay, to the widow Dixon, with a fortune of 30,000l.

Thursday last, at Chester, Capt. Forbes, of the 40th regiment, to Miss Limery, of Chester.

15. On Sunday, at Bow, William Cogan, Esq. of Bow, aged 82, to Miss Cole, of Tallow Chandler's Hall, aged twenty-six.

Monday, at Cranford, in Northamptonshire, Robert Blencowe, Esq. of the Inner Temple, to Miss Penelope Robinson, youngest daughter of Sir George Robinson, Bart.

Yesterday, at Hackney, Mr. Divers, of the Bank of England, to Miss Bellis, of Stoke Newington.

Lately, at Seven-oaks, in Kent, Multon Lambard, Esq. to Miss Aurea Otway, of Alhgrove,

Alingrove, Seven-oaks, daughter of the late Francis Otway, Esq.

17. Thursday, at St. Ann's, Westminster, Mr. Thomas Vardon, of Soho-square, to Miss Bowman, daughter of Edward Bowman, Esq. of the same place.

19. On Saturday morning, by special licence, by the Rev. Dr. Taylour, of Illeworth, Edward Law, Esq. of the Inner Temple, to Miss Towry, daughter of George Philips Towry, Esq.

Last week, Mr. Hayes, of Manchester-Buildings, to Miss Wolfe, of College-street, Westminster.

21. A few days since, at Dublin, Dr. Sheridan, of Navan, to Miss Donellan, of Oriflow, county of Meath.

Yesterday, at Hurst, in the county of Berks, George Beauchamp Proctor, Esq. to Miss Palmer, of that place.

22. On Friday last, at Fulford chapel, near York, John Raper, Esq. of Abberford, in that county, to Miss Wolley, of Fulford, daughter of the late Reverend Godfrey Wolley.

On Friday last, at St. Mary, Lambeth, John Kettle, Esq. of Amelia-street, Walworth, aged 74, to Miss Laycock, of the same place, aged 19.

On Thursday, at St. George's, Bloomsbury, Mr. Daniel Hill, surgeon, at Southampton-row, to Miss Butler, daughter of Robert Butler, Esq.

At Richmond, in Yorkshire, on the 15th instant, Mr. E. Towry, formerly in the East India Company's service, to Miss Layton, daughter of the late Rev. Andrew Layton, of Ipswich.

On Tuesday, Mr. William Tong, Fellow Commoner of St. Peter's College, Cambridge, to Miss Minter, of Tuddenham.

Wednesday se'nnight, Sir William Dolben, Bart. Member of Parliament for the University of Oxford, to Mrs. Scotchmer, of Great Barton, relict of the late John Scotchmer, Esq. formerly an eminent banker in Bury.

Thursday morning, at St. Dunstan's, Fleet-street, Mr. Charles Prichard, junior, of Brecon, to Miss Catharine Jones, of Cardigan.

Tuesday, at Hartington, near Ashbourne, Derbyshire, Mr. Frederic Willats, of Brewer-street, Golden-square, to Miss Eliza Winslow, of Derbyshire.

Lately, in Ireland, Captain Moore, of Cremorgan, Queen's county, to Miss Eleanor Derenzy, daughter of Annelley Derenzy, Esq. of Whitehall, in the county of Wicklow.

Lately, at Charles-church, Plymouth, Captain Dyer, of the marines, to Miss Innes, daughter of the late Rear Admiral Innes.

Yesterday, at Lowlayton, Mr. Thomas Memming, of Bury St. Edmund's, Suffolk,

to Mrs. Mary Rabnatt, of the Dolphin and Acorn Tavern, Hackney.

Yesterday, Mr. Wilder, of St. James's-street, to Miss Bishop, of Westminster.

Monday last, at St. Andrew's church, Holborn, Mr. Slaton, carpenter, of Theobald's Road, to Miss Davics, youngest daughter of Mr. Davies, painter, of Red-lion-street, Holborn.

DEATHS.

Sept. 26. A few days ago, Mr. Thomas Hodgson, an eminent attorney at law, late of Carlisle, but since of Carey-street, London.

Saturday last, at her house in Hamilton-street, Piccadilly, Mrs. Elizabeth Kent.

Monday last, Mr. Thomas Justice, at Appleford, near Abingdon, Berks.

30. Yesterday, Henry Smith, Esq. of New-house, St. Alban's.

Lately, at Knutsford, William Peters, Esq. aged 87, father of Ralph Peters, Esq. Recorder of Liverpool.

At her villa, on the banks of the Loire, Madame Oudenade. Her elegant house and furniture in Burgundy had been destroyed by the rioters: she had retired from their fury, but never recovered from the fright occasioned by it.

October 1. On Tuesday night, at Tunbridge Wells, the Right Honorable James Brydges, Duke of Chandos, &c. Lord Steward of his Majesty's Household. His Grace was born on the 27th of December, 1731; and at the general elections in 1754 and 1761, he was elected Knight of the Shire for Rrdnorshire.

On the accession of his present Majesty, he was appointed one of the Lords of his Majesty's Bedchamber, which he resigned in 1764; and in 1784 he was appointed Lord Steward of his Majesty's Household.

Such were his honors and high descent, to which his private virtues added a greater lustre. Fervent and unfeigned in his devotion, his charity and benevolence was unbounded. In his principles he was loyal, moderate, firm; and in his friendships he had the warmest heart.

His Grace was twice married; his first lady was Margaret, daughter and sole heiress of John Nicoll, Esq. of Minchen-don-house, Southgate, who died the 14th of August, 1768, and by whom he had no issue.

His second, the present Duchess, Anna-Eliza, daughter of Richard Gamon, Esq. and widow of Roger Hope Elletson, Esq. Lieutenant-Governor of Jamaica, married to the Duke the 21st of June, 1777, by whom he had two daughters, Lady Georgiana-Charlotte, to whom their Majesties in person were sponsors, and who died the day following; and Lady Anna-Eliza, his only surviving child, born the 22d of October, 1779.

His

His Grace dying without issue male, the honors of Duke, Marquis, Viscount, and Earl, are become extinct.

Oct. 3. On Monday, at his seat, Coln Engaine-park, Essex, Michael Robert Hills, Esq.

Yesterday morning, in the Fleet-prison, Mr. Charles Hart, formerly belonging to the Chancery-office.

Friday, at Hackney, Mrs. Mary Pome-roy.

Same day, Mr. Hardy, card-maker, in the Old Bailey.

A few days ago, at Kegworth in Leicesterhire, after a long illness, the Rev. John Willey, M. A. and rector of that parish, aged 60 years.

On Monday, at Homerton, Mrs. Freeman, relict of the late John Freeman, Esq. of Devonshire-square.

12. Lately, in Lower Armagnac, M. Deshneff, the celebrated antiquarian.

On Friday, at Boroughbridge, on his way to town, James Earl of Abercorn. He is succeeded in his honours and estates by his nephew, the Honorable John James Hamilton, Member of Parliament for St. Germain's. His Lordship has died possessed of immense property.

13. Lately, at Gloucester, Mrs. Wood, many years a wharfinger in that city.

Tuesday last, at the same place, Mrs. George, wife of Mr. George, cornfactor there.

Friday last, James Penman, Esq. of Bedford-street, Covent-Garden.

15. On Thursday, Mr. Jonathan Butcher, of South Audley-street, Grosvenor-square.

Saturday, Miss Richardson, daughter of Colonel Richardson, of the Guards.

On Sunday last, at Cheshel, Thomas Hunt, of Mollington, Esq. Member for Bodmin, in Cornwall.

On Monday last, in an advanced state, Mrs. Walford, of Ellesmere, in Shropshire.

The 28th of September, at Laufaune, in Switzerland, of a malignant dysentery, Mrs. Harriet Burton, relict of Doctor Daniel Burton, late Canon of Christ Church, and mother to Mrs. Frevor, wife of his Majesty's Minister at the Court of Turin.

Yesterday morning, at two o'clock, after a long and most afflicting illness, Mrs. Lafcelles, wife of General Lafcelles.

This lady, some years ago known as the celebrated Miss Catley, was the daughter of a coachman in the neighbourhood of Tower-hill, and became apprentice to Mr. Bates, a music-master and composer of some reputation. Her first appearance in public was in the Orchestra of Vauxhall; and her first song was composed by Giardini, and is now the admired air in Love in a Village, "it is not wealth," &c.

She is supposed to have been seduced by

Sir Francis Delaval, who was severely satirized on the occasion by Churchill, in his poem entitled *The Ghost*; and soon after he became the subject of a litigation in the Court of King's Bench. The father claimed her as his daughter, Mr. Bates claimed her as his apprentice, and the Knight was determined to keep her as his mistress. She was afterwards engaged at Covent Garden Theatre. She then sung at Marybone Gardens. A visit to Ireland succeeded; and we believe that it was there she became connected with Colonel Lafcelles. She was extremely popular, and universally admired in that kingdom, as a public singer; and the trick she played Lord Ruborough, now Lord Miltown, in making him roast a duck for her dinner, &c. will never be forgotten in Dublin.

On her return to England she was again engaged at Covent-Garden; where her manner of playing Juno, in the *Golden Pippin*, and singing the song of "Push about the joram," will ever be remembered by those who saw and heard her in that character. She performed also in *Antaxerxes*, *The Beggar's Opera*, and the best musical entertainments. She was occasionally heard in the oratorios of Handel.

She was a good mother to her children, whom she called her little indiscretions; and she practised a degree of prudence seldom to be found in persons of her vivacity and profession, for the contrived to save a very handsome independence from her theatrical emoluments.

17. On Friday last, Mrs. Walker, wife of the Reverend Job Walker, of Buxted.

Lately, Lieutenant Colonel Francis Dillon, Baron of the Holy Roman Empire, an officer of great merit in the Imperial service, who distinguished himself on several occasions in the present war against the Turks. He was younger brother to John Talbot Dillon, Esq. of Bennet-street, Surry.

Monday, at East Bourne, aged 83, Mrs. Marchant, a widow lady of that place.

On Friday, the Reverend Mr. Poole, in the Vineyards, Bath.

A few days ago, at Uttoxeter, at the age of 102, Thomas Dyche. He had for several years past received support from the parish, and also many charitable contributions, which he was able to go about and collect till within a few days of his death.

On Monday, the 6th instant, at Newark, Mr. John Crampton, whitesmith. Some months ago he ordered a coffin to be made to fit him, and had it brought to his door, where he sat in it several hours, inviting his neighbours to drink with him while he had it in his power, for he knew he should not be able to do it long.

21. Yesterday at a very advanced age, Anne Countess Dowager of Albemarle, widow of William Anne, second Earl of Albe-

Albemarle, who died Ambassador at Paris in 1734.

The above-mentioned was daughter of Charles Lenox, first Duke of Richmond, Lenox, and Aubigny, and was one of the Ladies of the Bed Chamber to her late Majesty. Her Ladyship was married in 1722-3, and had issue eight sons and seven daughters, among whom was the celebrated Admiral Viscount Keppel, first Lord of the Admiralty, and the late Marchioness of Tavistock, mother to the present Duke of Bedford. She was a favorite at St. James's in the late King's time; was always of his Majesty's private card parties, and was in all respects a truly valuable and amiable woman.

21. On Saturday morning last, at his Lordship's house, Great George-street, Westminster, the Lady of the Right Hon. Lord McDonald, elder brother of the Attorney-General.

22. Lately at Kulhorn, near Port Patrick, the Hon. John Dalrymple, Earl of Stair, and Viscount Dalrymple. He is succeeded in title and estate by his son John, now Earl of Stair, late one of his Majesty's Ambassadors at the Court of Berlin. The late Lord was one of the sixteen Representatives of the Scotch Peerage, and was well known in the literary and political world, by his late publications on the finances of this country.

A few days ago at Telford, in Kent, Lieut. Gambier, eldest son of the late Admiral.

Wednesday, in Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, after a long and painful illness, Mrs Jennings, wife of Mr. Dan. Jennings.

Friday last, aged 85, at Upton, Huntingdonshire, the Rev. W. Walton, LL.D. and M.D. Rector of that parish, and one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace.

Wednesday morning, at his house in the Strand, Mr. Hernon, grocer.

On Tuesday, aged 17, Miss Kemp, daughter of Thomas Kemp, Esq; one of the Representatives in Parliament for Lewes.

24. Last week, Mrs. Abbott, of Overcompton, Dorset. The disconsolate widow has since been married to Miss Harrison, of Broadwindor.

Tuesday, of a consumption, (the consequence of grief for the loss of her excellent father,) Miss Halifax, of Reading.

Saturday night, at Kilburn, Mr. Michael Parys, of Great Suffolk-street, Charing-cross.

Tuesday, at Higham, near Bridgewater, Mr. W. Barrett, who for many years practised surgery and midwifery in Bristol.

On Monday last, at his seat near Shaftesbury, Dorsetshire, Mr. T. Stillingfleet, Gentleman of his Majesty's Wine Cellar.

At Plymouth, Mrs. Julian, [wife of

Captain Julian, of the 23d. regiment, (or Royal Welch Fusiliers.)

On Saturday last, at Edmonton, Mrs. Sarah Killingly, of that parish, aged 90 years.

BANKRUPTS.—Thomas Marshall, of Gosport, Hants, linen-draper. Fielder Dorsett, late of the Province of Maryland, in America, but now of Spring-gardens, Middlesex, merchant. Edward Chesteron, of Little Newport-street, in the parish of St. Ann, Westminster, Middlesex, poultryer. Thomas Reid and Alexander Halliday, formerly of the city of London, but late of Liverpool, Lancashire, insurance-brokers and copartners. Thomas Wheldale, the elder, late of Holbeach, Lincolnshire, shopkeeper. Thomas Chesteron, of Berkeley-square, in the parish of St. George, Westminster, Middlesex, haberdasher. Benjamin Foulstone, of Grosvenor-mews, in the parish of St. George, Hanover-square, Middlesex, stable-keeper. Joan Pereira Barboza, of Winkworth-buildings, City New Road, Middlesex, wine-merchant. John Warne, of Moorfields, in the city of London, tinman. Robert Porter, of Fareham, Southampton, starch maker. Thomas Whittaker, of Liverpool, Lancashire, dealer and chapman. John Brown, of Melford, Suffolk, soap-boiler. Daniel Lovell, of Lawrence lane, in the city of London, merchant, (partner with James Pank, late of Lawrence-lane, but now of Rouen, in France, merchant. James Brown and George Brown, of Kingston, Surry, shopkeepers and copartners. Samuel Fremout, of the city of Norwich, beer brewer and maltster. William Gibson, of Sunderland, near the Sea, Durham, rope-maker. Thomas Hands, the younger, of Birmingham, Warwickshire, buckle-stamper. William Down, of Tenterden, Kent, woollen-draper. Thomas Peete Wimberley, of Grantham, Lincolnshire, linen-draper, and mercer. Patrick Ross, of Cross-lane, St. Mary at Hill, in the city of London, printer. Philip Furley, now or late of Duke-square, Grosvenor-square, in the parish of St. George, Hanover-square, Middlesex, wine merchant. Henry Cort, of Gosport, Hants, iron-manufacturer. George Booth, now or late of Soyland Mills, in Soyland, in the parish of Hallifax, Yorkshire, corn miller. Thomas Wood and Thomas Mason, late of Eton, Bucks, cotton-manufacturers, weavers, and copartners. William Potter, of St. Martin's-le-grand, within the liberty of Westminster, Middlesex, man's mercer. Edward Bayly, of the parish of St. Paul, Shadwell, Middlesex, sail maker. Jeremiah Wright, of Birmingham, Warwickshire, baker. John Dixon, late of Stone, Staffordshire, shopkeeper.

PRICE OF STOCKS IN OCTOBER, 1789.

Days.	Bank Stock.	13 per Ct. reduc.	13 per Ct. Confol.	Long Stock.	Short ditto.	India Stock.	India Bonds.	S. Sea Stock.	Old Ann.	New 3 per Ct. Ann.	New Navy.	Esch. Bills.	Tontine.	Lottery Tickets.
26	80	80	80	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118
27	80	80	80	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118
28	80	80	80	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118
29	80	80	80	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118
30	80	80	80	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118
31	80	80	80	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118
1	80	80	80	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118
2	80	80	80	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118
3	80	80	80	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118
4	80	80	80	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118
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7	80	80	80	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118
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9	80	80	80	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118
10	80	80	80	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118
11	80	80	80	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118
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16	80	80	80	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118
17	80	80	80	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118
18	80	80	80	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118
19	80	80	80	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118
20	80	80	80	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118
21	80	80	80	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118
22	80	80	80	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118
23	80	80	80	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118
24	80	80	80	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118
25	80	80	80	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118
26	80	80	80	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118	118

METEOROLOGICAL DIARY

in LONDON, for October 1789.

By Mr. W. JONES, Optician, HOLBORN.
Height of the Barometer and Thermo-
meter with Fahrenheit's Scale.

Days.	Barometer. Inches, and 100th Parts.	Thermome- ter. Fahrenheit's.	Weather in Oa. 1789.
S. 27	8 0' Clock Morning.	8 0' Clock Morning.	Cloudy
28	11 0' Clock Night.	Noon.	Ditto
29		11 0' Clock Night.	Rain
30			Showers
1			Rain
2			Showers
3			Ditto
4			Ditto
5			Ditto
6			Ditto
7			Ditto
8			Rain
9			Cloudy
10			Ditto
11			Showers
12			Cloudy
13			Showers
14			Ditto
15			Ditto
16			Fair
17			Ditto
18			Rain
19			Ditto
20			Fair
21			Cloudy
22			Ditto
23			Ditto
24			Ditto
25			Ditto
26			Ditto

Corn-Exchange, London.

RETURNS OF CORN and GRAIN.

From Oct. 12 to Oct. 17, 1789.

	Quar- ters.	Price.	Avr. Pr. per. Qr.
		£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Barley	4248	4709 16	7 1 2
Beans	2928	3486 7	1 3 1
Malt	3032	4919 0	4 1 11
Oats	8212	7293 10	8 0 17
Pease	1133	1627 19	8 1 8
Rye	95	92 8	7 1 8
Wheat	5705	14621 19	10 2 11
Bigg			
Beer			

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LITERARY MAGAZINE & BRITISH REVIEW



Forster sculp.

LEONARD EULER.

Pub.^d as the Act directs Dec^r 1. 1789 by C. Forster N^o 41 Poultry.

LITERARY MAGAZINE,

BRITISH REVIEW.

NOVEMBER 1789.

LIFE OF EDWARD JESS.

EDWARD JESS, Esq. of the
Middle Temple, Barrister
at Law, in London.
Born in 1727, 1738. He was
the son of a gentleman of the county
of Devon, and was educated
at Exeter, and then at
Oxford, where he was
admitted into the Inner Temple
in 1750. He began his practice
of the law, and in 1755 he
was made a member of the
Middle Temple. He was
elected a Fellow of the
Royal Society in 1760, and
in 1765 he was made a
Barrister at Law. He was
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and in 1775 he was made
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died in 1789, at the age of
62.

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In 1727, as the Rev. Dr. JESS, the
author of the following works, was
born in Devon, and was educated
at Exeter, and then at Oxford.